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HÄNSEL AND GRETEL

A Fairy Opera

In Three Acts by
ADELHEID WETTE

Translated and Adapted
Into English by
CONSTANCE BACHE

The Music Composed by
E. HUMPERDINCK

Complete Vocal Score by
R. KLEINMICHEL

G. SCHIRMER, Inc., NEW YORK

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ARGUMENT

ONCE upon a time a poor broom-maker and his wife lived in a lonesome cottage in the Harz Mountains with their little son, Hänsel, and daughter, Gretel. When our story opens, the father and mother have gone away to sell brooms in the neighboring villages, leaving the children at work in the house. But work is tiresome, especially when empty stomachs are clamoring for unattainable goodies; finally the youthful pair start to romping about the room, and at the height of their frolic the mother enters, weary from her long trip and unhappy because she has been unable to sell her wares. She scolds the children, and sends them out into the forest to pick wild strawberries for supper.—Late that evening the father returns, having disposed of his brooms at a good profit, and gaily unpacks a quantity of dainties; then, missing the children, he asks after them, and is horror-stricken at thought of their pitiful plight all alone after nightfall in the woods.

Act II discovers the children roaming through the woods, gradually filling their baskets with strawberries; heedless of direction and time, eventide finds them bewildered in the darkening forest haunted, as they have been taught to believe, by fairies and witches. The steep, rocky bulk of the Ilsenstein, a reputed gathering-place for evil sprites, looms up amid the trees; the wind whispers and moans uncannily, and shadowy bush and hollow take on strange and fearful shapes. The frightened children cower together beneath a spreading tree, and repeat their usual bedtime prayer to the "fourteen guardian angels," after which, calmer in spirit, they fall asleep with a fairy vision of the radiant angels floating around them.

Act III opens at daybreak; the children awake, refreshed by a good night's sleep, and sing merrily. All at once they notice an object overlooked in the evening darkness—a beautiful little house built of all manner of good things to eat, and giving off a most appetizing odor. This is, alas! the abode of a wicked witch, an ogress who entraps small boys and girls by her spells, pops them into her oven, and bakes them into delectable gingerbread, upon which she fares. Hänsel and Gretel approach the house and begin to break off tasty morsels from the walls; the witch appears and in due course casts a spell over them to prevent their escape; she now shuts Hänsel up in a sort of cage and feeds him on sweets to fatten him; then she tries to entice Gretel to bend down in front of the oven, so that she may be able to push her in and bake her; but Gretel pretends not to understand, and when the witch herself crossly bends down to show her how, the two children quickly shove her into the oven, bang the door shut, and dance around gleefully. Thereupon, all the gingerbread shapes that formed the hedge around the witch's house are transformed—her spell being broken—into their rightful shapes of happy boys and girls who thank Hänsel and Gretel for their deliverance; then the father and mother, who have been seeking their dear ones, burst upon the scene, and all winds up with a chorus of thanksgiving.

Hänsel and Gretel.

Dramatis Personæ.

Peter, a broom-maker ..... *Baritone.*
Gertrude, his wife ..... *Mezzo-Soprano.*
Hänsel } their children ..... *Mezzo-Soprano.*
Gretel } ..... *Soprano.*
The Witch who eats children ..... *Mezzo-Soprano.*
Sandman (the sleep fairy) ..... *Soprano.*
Dewman (the dawn fairy) ..... *Soprano.*
Children ..... *Sopranos and Contraltos.*

Fourteen Angels ..... *Ballet.*

First Act.	Home.
Second Act.	The forest.
Third Act.	The witch's house.

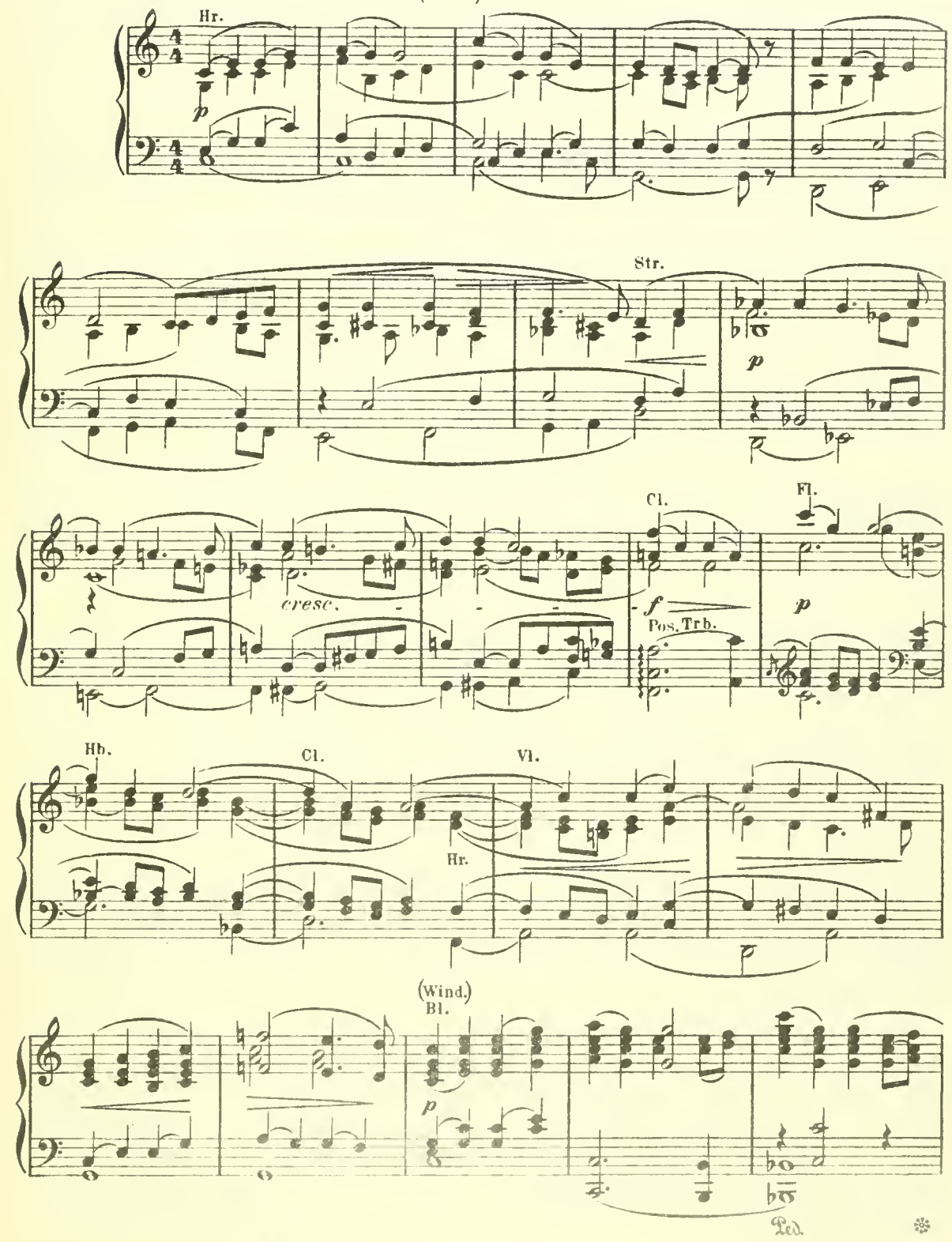
31957

Hänsel and Gretel.

Prelude.

Ruhige, nicht zu langsame Bewegung.
Andante con moto. (♩= 69)

E. Humperdinck.



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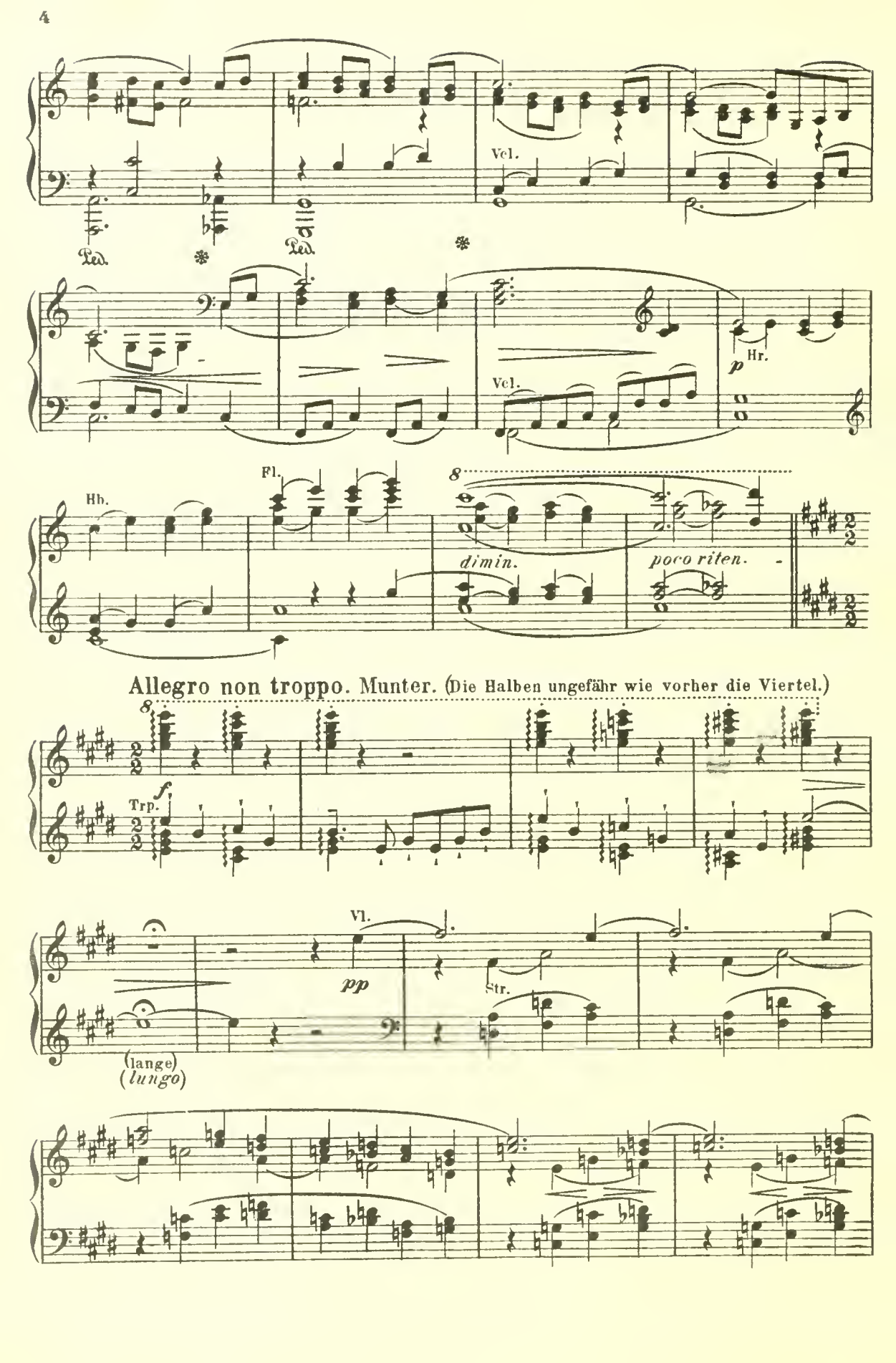
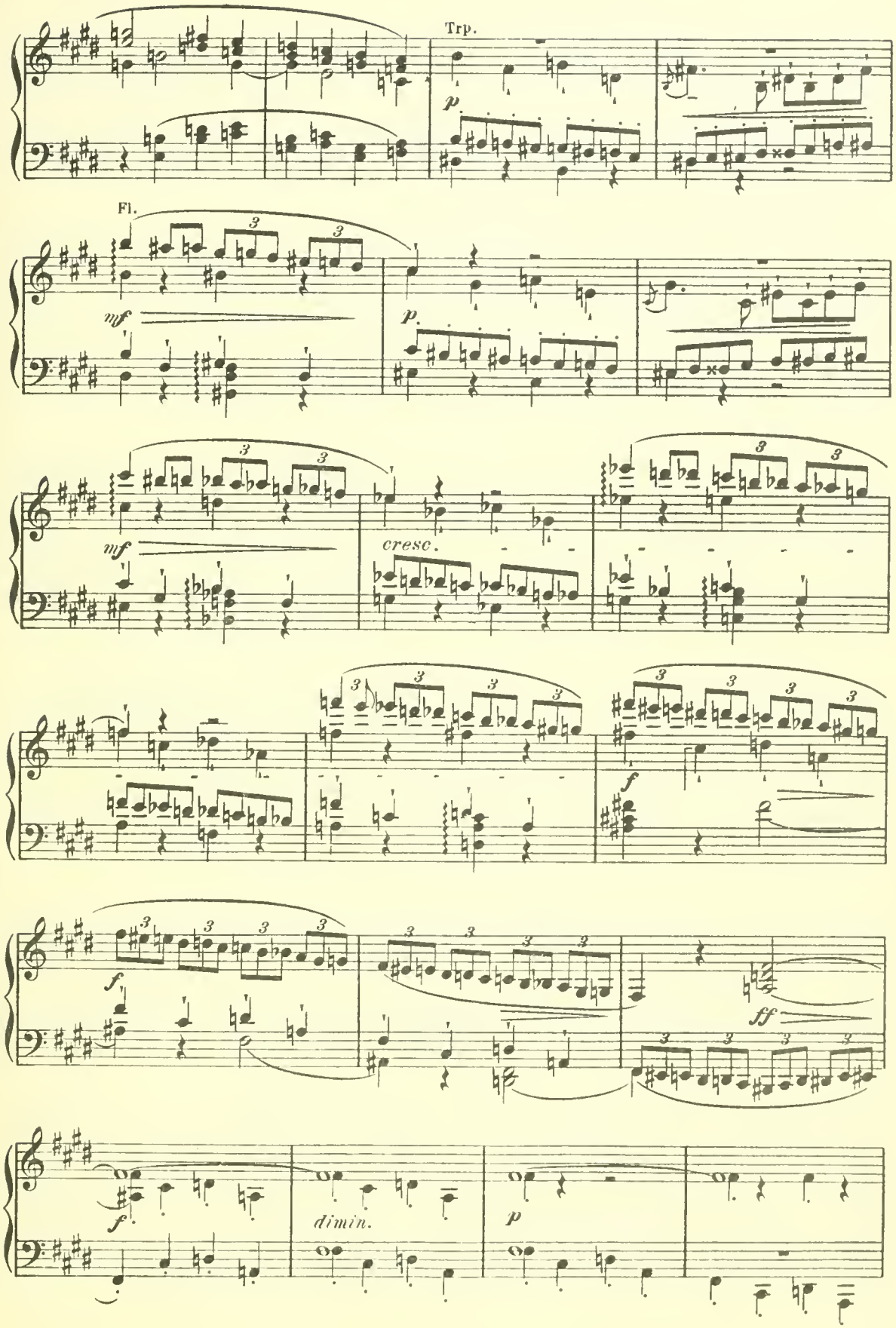
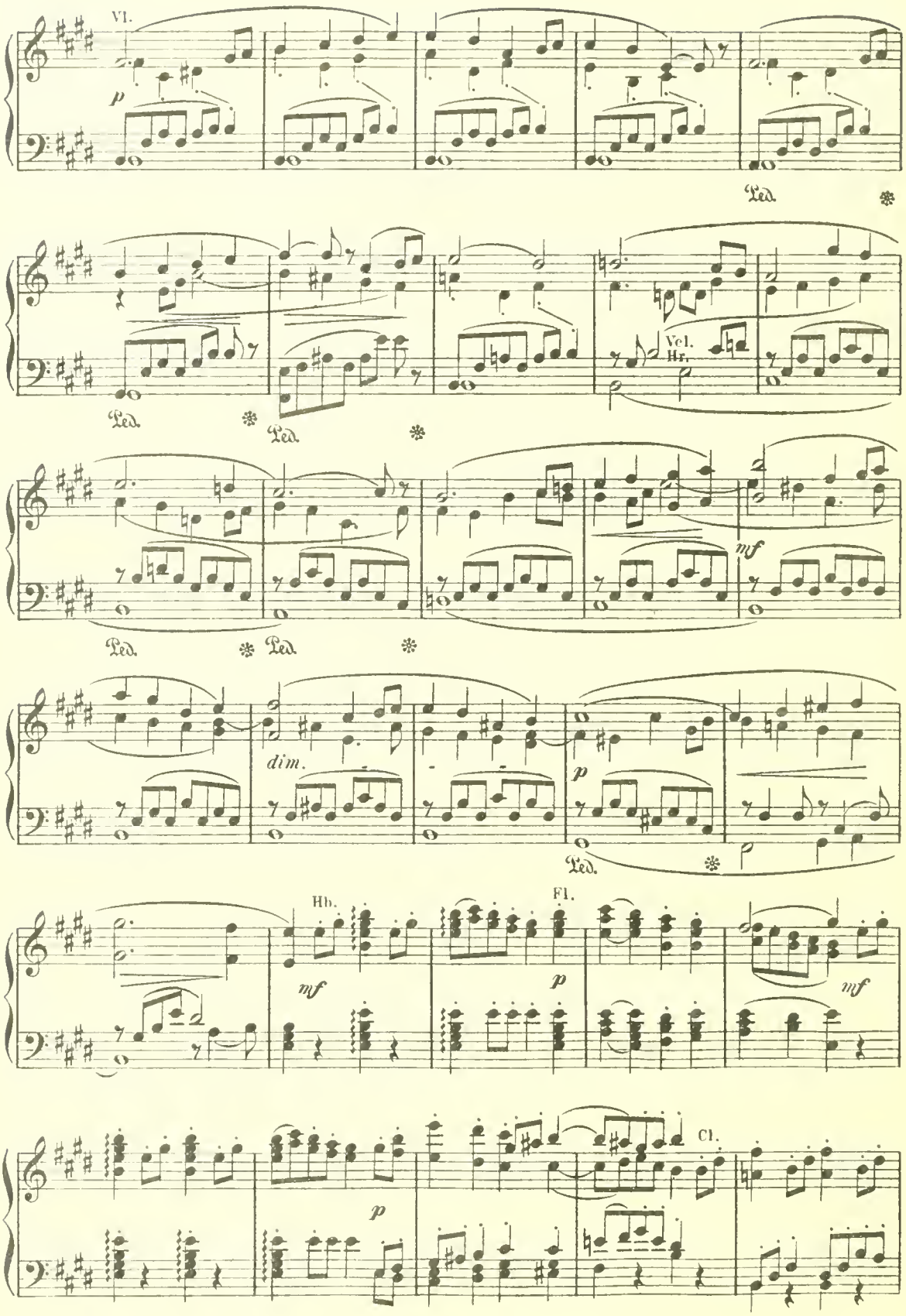

Ped.
Ped.
Vcl.
Vcl.
p
Hr.
Hb.
Fl.
8
dimin.
poco riten.
Allegro non troppo. Munter. (Die Halben ungefähr wie vorher die Viertel.)
8
f
Trp.
Vl.
pp
Str.
(lange)
(lungo)


Trp.
p
Fl.
mf
p
mf
cresc.
f
f
ff
f
dimin.
p


Vl.
p
Ped.
Vcl.
Hr.
mf
dim.
p
Hb.
mf
Fl.
p
mf
p
Cl.

Hb.
Fl.
cresc.
Vl.
sf
Cl.
p Vl.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Bl. (Wind)
tr
poco riten.
p Pos. Trb.
Ped.
Ped.
Hb.
Hr.
m.s.
L.H.
Ped.
Ped.
Trb.
Pos.
p
Vcl.
cresc.
Ped.
Hb.
fp
tr
Fl.
p

Das Zeitmass sehr allmählich beschleunigen.
Poco a poco accelerando.

Hr.

VI.

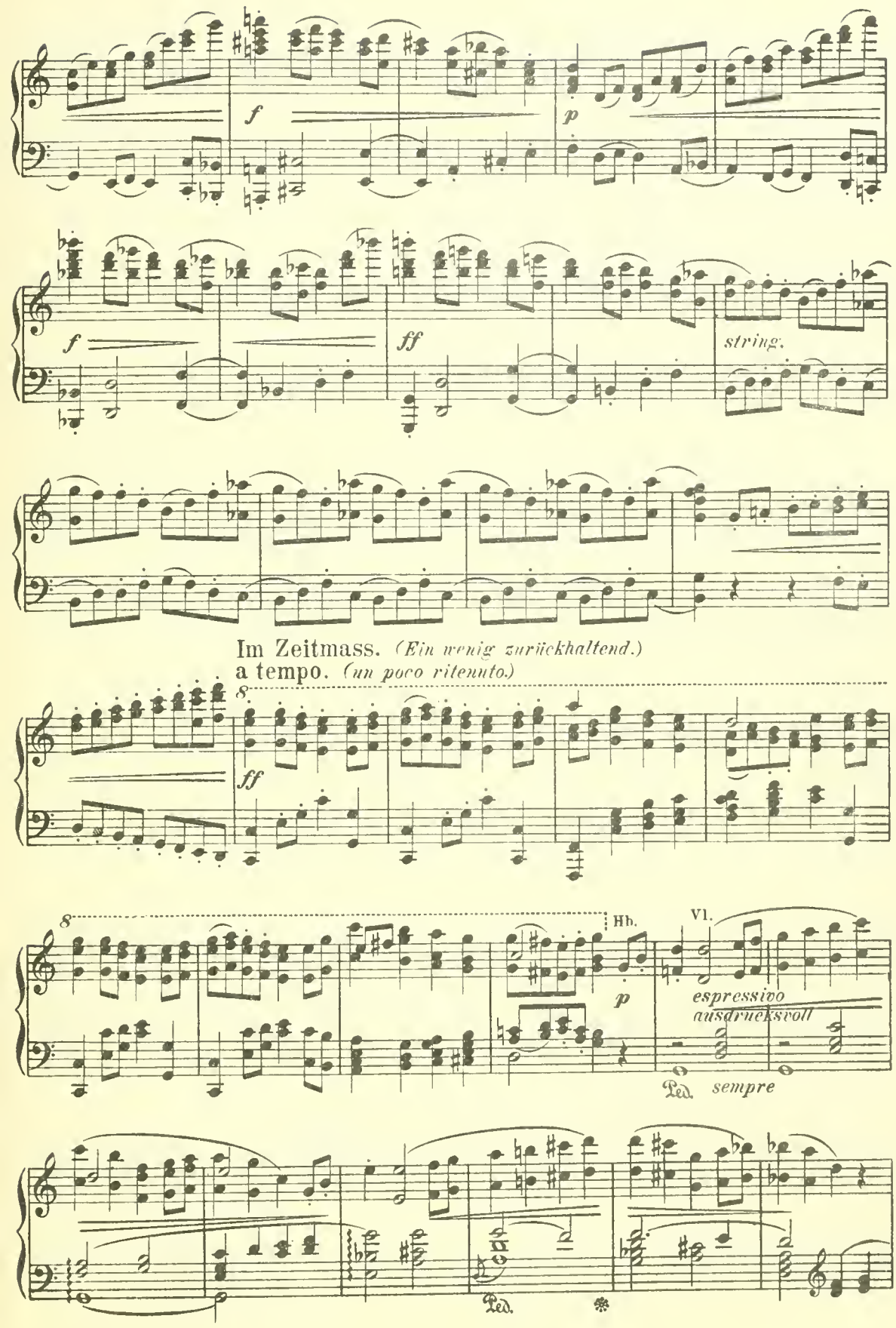
p

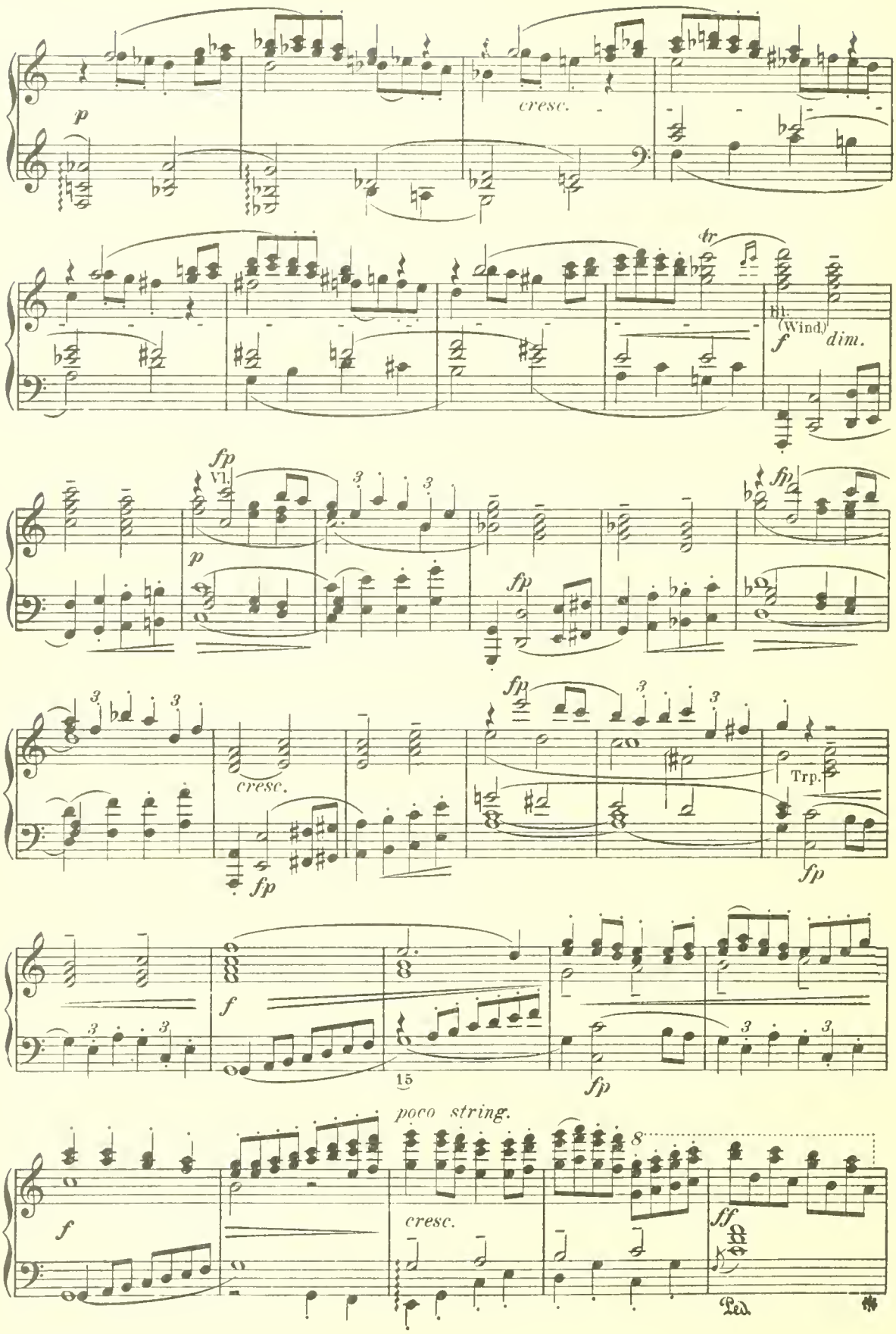
Ped.

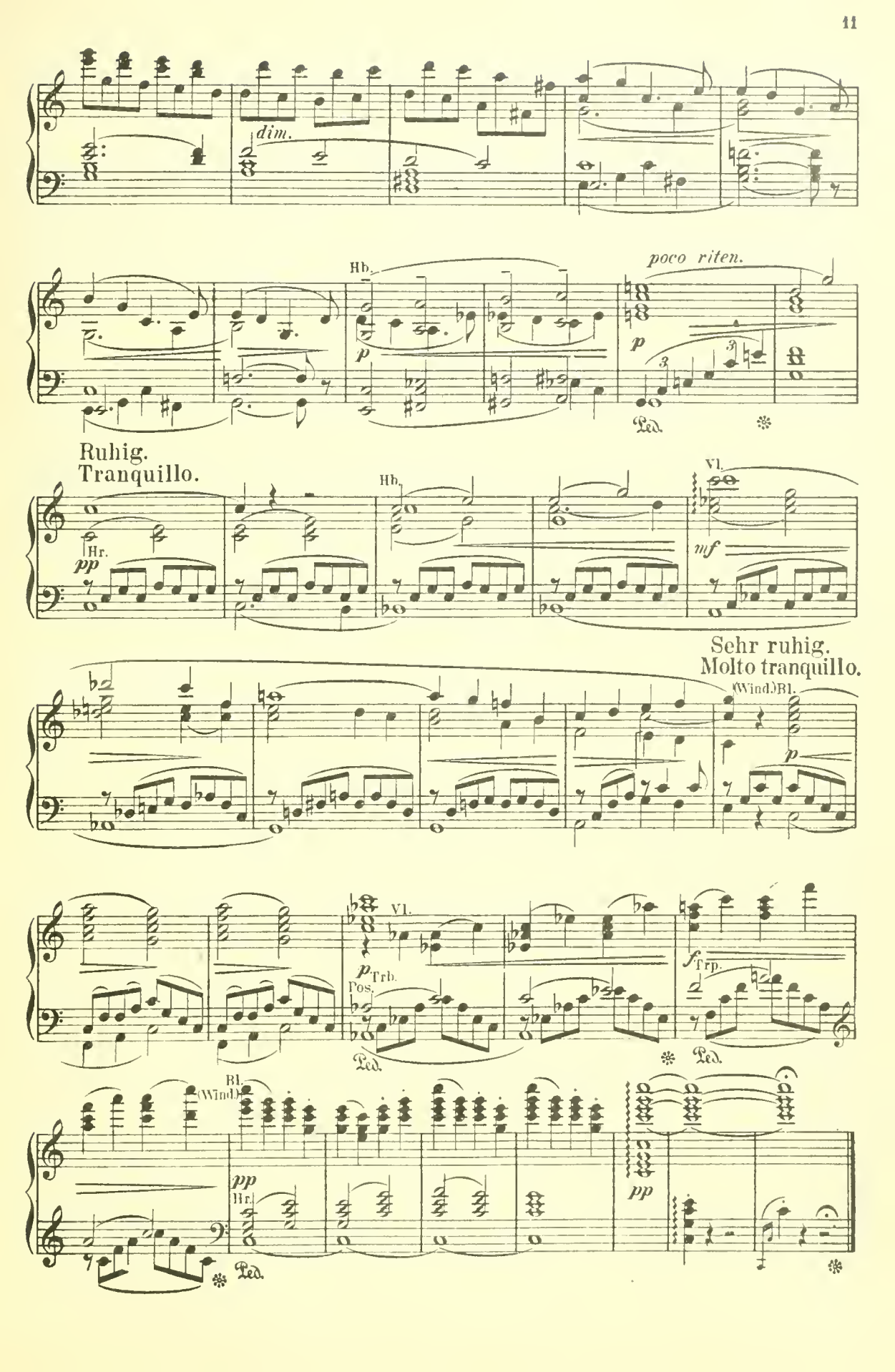
poco a poco cresc.

f

p


f
p
f
ff
string.
Im Zeitmass. (Ein wenig zurückhaltend.)
a tempo. (un poco ritenuto.)
8
ff
8
Hb.
p
Vl.
espressivo
ausdrucksvoll
Ped.
sempre
Ped.


p
cresc.
tr
Hl.
(Wind)
f
dim.
fp
Vl.
p
fp
fp
cresc.
fp
fp
Trp.
fp
f
15
fp
poco string.
f
cresc.
8
ff
Ped.


dim.
Hb.
p
poco riten.
p
Ped.
Ruhig.
Tranquillo.
Hr.
pp
Hb.
Vl.
mf
Sehr ruhig.
Molto tranquillo.
(Wind.)Bl.
p
Vl.
p Trb.
Pos.
Ped.
f Trp.
Ped.
Bl.
(Wind.)
pp
Hr.
pp
Ped.

First Act.

Home.

Allegretto con moto. (♩.= 63)

p Vcl. Cl. Fl. Hb. Fl. Cl. Bass Hr. (Curtain rises.)

First Scene.

(A small and poorly furnished room. In the background a door; a small window near it, looking on to the forest. On the left a fireplace with chimney above it. On the walls are hanging brooms of various sizes. Hänsel is sitting by the door, making brooms, and Gretel opposite him by the fireplace, knitting a stocking.)

Gretel.

Su - sy, lit - tle Su - sy, pray what is the news?

Hb.

The geese are running bare-foot be-cause they've no shoes!

Hr.

p

The cobbler has leather and plen-ty to spare, Why can't he

Cl.

Hb.

sfz

p

Ped.

make the poor goose a new- (continuing) pair?

Hänsel (interrupting her.)

Then they'll have to go bare-foot!

Fl.

p

Cl.

Bass.

Hänsel.

Ei - a po - pei - a, pray what's to be

Hr.

done? Who'll give me milk and sugar, for bread I have none?

Cl. p Hr. Hb.

I'll go back to bed and I'll lie there all day, Where there's nought to

Cl. Hb. sfz p

Gretel (interrupting.)

Then we'll have to go hungry!

(continuing.)

eat then there's nothing to pay!

Fl. p Cl. Bass.

Hänsel (throwing his work aside and getting up.)

If mother would on-ly come home a-

Hr. dim. Str. p

Gretel (getting up.)

gain! Yes, I'm so hungry I don't know what to do! For weeks I've ea - ten nought but

Hänsel.

Hb. *sfz* Bass. *p* Ten. Bass.

Gretel.

Hush, Hän-sel, don't forget what father

ritard. *a tempo*

bread, It's ve - ry hard, it is in - deed!

ritard. *a tempo*

Ten. *sfz* Cl. *sfz* Wind. *p*

ritard. *a tempo*

said When mother too wished she were dead: "When past bear - ing

ritard. *a tempo*

Str. *p* *sfz* *più p* Bass. *p*

is our grief, God the Lord will send re - lief!"

Hänsel.

Yes, yes, that

cresc. *pp* Vcl.

sounds all ve - ry fine, But a - las, off maxims we can-not dine! O

Str. *p* Vl. *tr* Bass.

Gre - - tel, it would be such a treat If we had some-thing nice to

Vcl.

poco ritard.

eat! Eggs and but-ter and su - et paste, I've al-most for - got - ten how they

Hb. Ten. *p* Vcl. *poco ritard.*

Gretel (stopping his mouth.)

Hush, don't give way to grumps,

Tempo.

taste O Gretel, I wish

Tempo. *f* Hr. *sf* Cl. *p* *f* Bass.

Have patience a-while, no dole-ful dumps! This wo - ful face,

Vl.

cre - Hr.

Whew! what a sight, Looks like a hor-rid old cross - - patch

tr

scen - - - *do*

Allegretto con moto. (♪ = ♪) (She takes a broom in her hand.)

fright! Crosspatch a-way, Leave me I pray!

Wind.

f

Hr.

Str. *p*

Just let me reach you, Quick-ly I'll teach you How to make trouble Soon mount to double!

Crosspatch, crosspatch, What is the use Grow-ling and grumbling, Full of a-buse,

Vl.

p *cresc.*

Off with you, out with you, Shame on you, goose! Crosspatch a - way,

Hänsel (seizes the broom too.)

Crosspatch a - way, Hard lines I

Wind. Str.

f *p*

Leave me I pray! If I am hung - ry I'll nev-er say so,

say! When I am hung-ry Sure-ly I can say so, Can - not al-

cresc.

Will not give way so, Chase it a-way so! Crosspatch, crosspatch, What is the use

lay so, Can't chase a - way so! Crosspatch, crosspatch, What is the use

p

Grow - ling and grumb - ling, Full of a - buse, Off with you, Out with you.

Grow - ling and grumb - ling, Full of a - buse, Off with you, Out with

cresc. *f*

Shame on you, goose! (pretending to sweep away.) That's right! Now

you, with you!

Hr. *f* *f*

Tempo primo. (♪ = ♪)

if you leave off com - plaining I'll tell you a most de - light - - - ful

Wind. *p* *f* *p* *dim.*

Bass.

Hänsel.

secret! O de - light - - - ful! it must be something

Hr. Cl. Fl. Cl. Fl.

p *p*

Vcl.

Gretel.

nice! Well list - en, broth-er-kin, won't you be glad! Look

Vl. Cl. Fl.

p

here in the jug, here is fresh milk, 'Twas giv - en to-day by our

Vl. Cl. Fl.

p

neigh - bour, And moth - er, when she comes back

Vl. Fl. Vl.

p

Cl.

home, Will certain-ly make us a rice blanc-mange!

Hänsel (with glee)

Rice blanc-mange!

cresc.

Hänsel (dancing round the room)

When blanc-mange is an - y-where near, Then Hän - sel, Hän - sel,

Hb.

Cl.

p

Hän-sel is there! How thick is the cream on the milk, let's

p Wind.

(He licks the cream off his finger.)

taste it! O Ge - mi - ni, wouldn't I like to

p *espressivo*

Cl. Hr.

f

dimin.

Più animato.

Gretel.

(gives him a rap on his fingers.)

What, Hän-sel, tast-ing? Aren't you a - shamed? Out with your

drink it!

Più animato.

p *f*

fingers quick, gree-dy boy! Go back to your work again, be

Ten

Vcl.

quick, that we may both have done in time! If mother comes and we haven't done

Tempo come prima

Hänsel (sticking

right, Then bad-ly it will fare with us to - night! Work a-gain?

Cl.

his hands into his trousers pockets.)

poco ritard.

No, not for me! That's not my i-dea at all, It doesn't

Hb.

Vl.

poco ritard.

a tempo

suit me! It's such a bore! Dancing is jol - li - er far, I'm

a tempo *cresc.* *dr*

Gretel.

Danc - ing! Danc - ing! O yes, that's bet - ter far.

sure!

f *f* *p* *f*

And sing a song to keep us in time! One that our grand - mother

f *p* *cre* - - - *scen* - -

used to sing us: Sing then, and dance in time to the sing - ing!

do Cl. *f* Vl. *mf*

Allegretto con moto. (♩=100)

(clapping her hands)

Brother come and dance with me,

Fl. Hb.

Hr.

Bass.

Dr.

Both my hands I of - fer thee, Right foot first, Left foot then, Round a-bout and

Str.

back a - gain.

(Hänsel tries to do it, but awkwardly.)

Hänsel.

I would dance, but

Fl. Hb.

Hr.

Wind.

don't know how, When to jump or when to bow, Show me what I ought to do,

Vl.

Str.

Gretel.

So that I may dance like you. With your foot you tap tap tap,

cresc. f tr Vl. p Hb. Cl.

With your hand you clap clap clap, Right foot first, Left foot then, Round about and

Hänsel.

back a-gain! With your foot you tap tap tap, With your hand you clap clap clap,

Vl. p Fl.

Gretel.

Right foot first, Left foot then, Round and back a-gain! That was ve-ry good indeed,

cresc. f Wind. f p

O I'm sure you'll soon succeed! Try a-gain and I can see Hän-sel soon will

Hr.

Bass.

Cl.

f *p* *cresc.*

(clapping her hands joyfully.)

dance like me! With your head you nick nick nick, With your fingers you

f *tr* *p*

click click click, Right foot first, Left foot then, Round a-bout and back a-gain!

Hänsel.

With your head you nick nick nick, With your fingers you click click click, Right foot first,

Vl. Fl.

p *cresc.*

Gretel.

Left foot then, Round and back a - gain! Brother, watch what next I do,

Wind.
p

You must do it with me too! You to me your arm must pro-fer, I shall not re -

Vl.
Hr.

(takes Hänsel by the arm.)

fuse your of-fer! Come!

Hänsel.

What I en - -

cresc.

tr

What I en -

joy is dance and jol - li - ty, Love to have my fling, In

Cl.
fp

Hb.

joy is dance and jol - li - ty, And all that kind of thing! What I en - joy is dance and

fact I like fri - vo - li - ty, And all that kind of thing! In fact I like fri -

Vl.

mf

jol - li - ty, Love to have my fling, I like fri - vo - li - ty, And

vo - li - ty, Love to have my fling, In fact I quite pre - fer fri - vo - li - ty, And

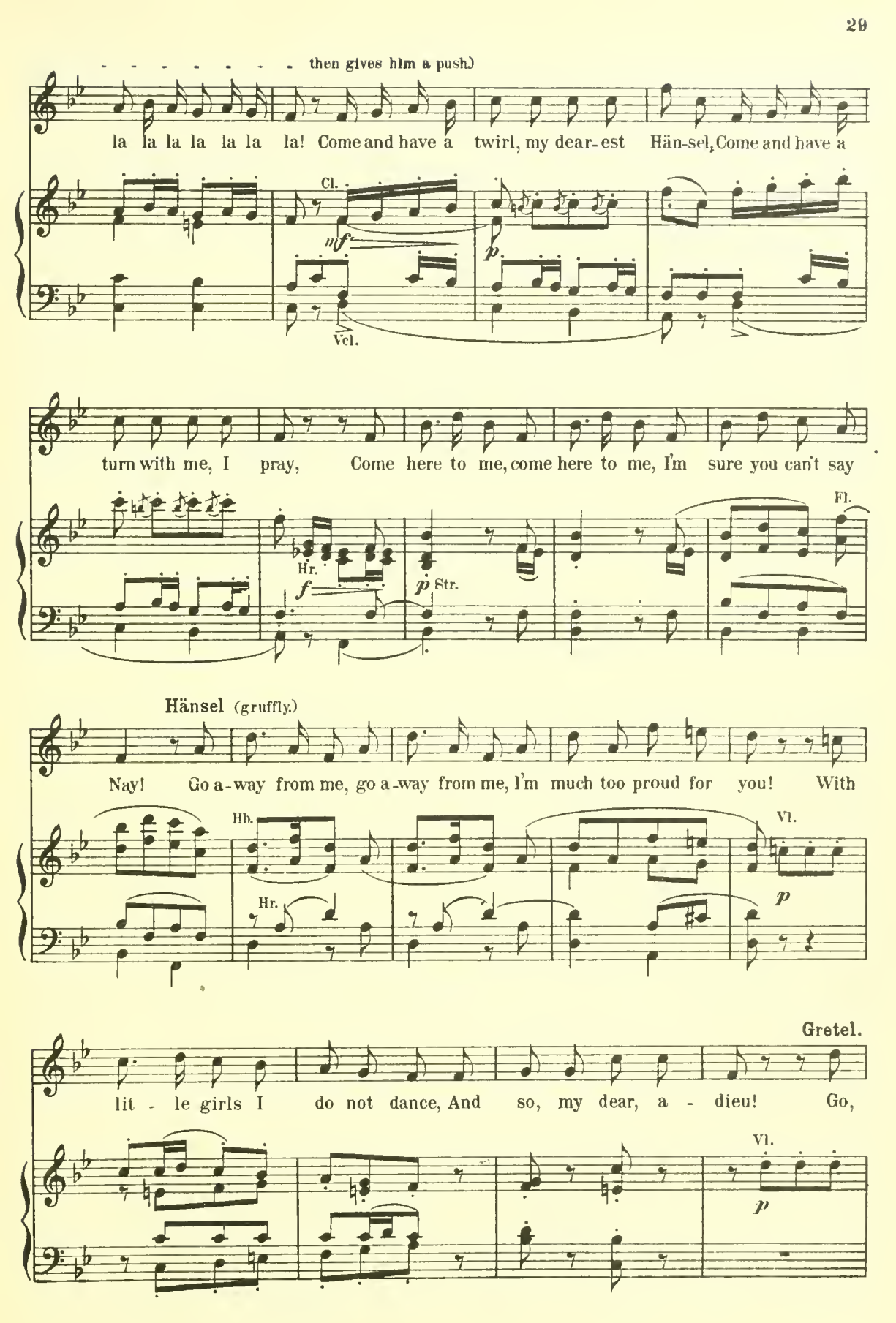
(pulls Hänsel along, and dances round him - - - - - - -

all that kind of thing! Tra la la la la la la la la la la, tra la

all that kind of thing!

Hb.

fp


- - - - - - - - then gives him a push.)
la la la la la la! Come and have a twirl, my dear-est Hän-sel, Come and have a
Cl.
mf
p
Vcl.
turn with me, I pray, Come here to me, come here to me, I'm sure you can't say
Hr.
f
p Str.
Fl.
Hänsel (gruffly.)
Nay! Go a-way from me, go a-way from me, I'm much too proud for you! With
Hb.
Hr.
Vl.
p
Gretel.
lit - le girls I do not dance, And so, my dear, a - dieu! Go,
Vl.
p

poco ritard. *Tempo.* (dances round Hänsel)

stu - pid Hans, con - cei - ted Hans, you'll see I'll make you dance! Tra la la la la la la

poco ritard. *Tempo.* Cl.

Hr. *mf* Bass.

as before - - - - - - - - - - - - and gives him a push.)

la la la, tra la la la la la la la! Come and have a twirl, my dear - est

Hänsel (dances round Gretel.)

Tra la la la la la la la

mf *p*

Hän - sel, Come and have a turn with me, I pray,

la la la, tra la la la la la la la! O Gre - tel dear, O

mf *p* *f* Wind. *mf*

Gretel.

sis - ter dear, Your stocking has a hole! O Hän - sel dear, O bro - ther dear, D'you

Vl. *p*

take me for a fool? With naugh-ty boys I do not dance, And so, my dear, a-

Hb. Fl. p p

Hänsel. poco ritard. Tempo. Gretel.

dieu! Now don't be cross, you sil-ly goose, You'll see I'll make you dance! Tra la

Cl. Bass. p Vl. Ten. Vcl. poco ritard. p Tempo. Trp. mf Dr.

(they dance as before)

la tra la la tra la la la la, tra la la tra la la tra la la! Come and have a

Hänsel.

Tra la

mf

twirl, my dear-est Hän-sel, Come and have a turn, my dear-est Hans! Sing

la tra la la tra la la la la, tra la la tra la la tra la la! Sing

Hr. p mf p Hr. f

lu-sti - ly hur - rah, hur-rah! While I dance with you! And if the stockings

lu-sti - ly hur - rah, hur-rah! While I dance with you! And if the shoes are

Cl. *mf* Str. *f* Cl. Hr. *f*

(They dance by turns as before.)

are in holes, Why mother'll knit some new! Come and have a

all in holes, Why mother'll buy some new! Tra la la tra la la tra la la la la, tra la

f Vl. *fp* Cl. Ten. *fp*

twirl, my dear-est Hän-sel! On-ly have a

la tra la la tra la la! Tra la la tra la la tra la la la la, tra la

fp *fp*

(Then they seize each other's hands and dance round and round,

twirl, my dear-est Hänsel! Tra la la trala la. tra la la tra la la. tra la

la trala la trala la la la, tra la la la la, tra la la la la, tra la

fp *fp* *fp*

quicker and quicker, until at last they lose their balance and tumble over one another onto the floor.)

string.

la tra la la, trala la trala la, trala la trala la, trala la trala la, tra

la la la, trala la trala la, tra la trala la, trala la trala la, tra

string.

fp *fp* *cresc.*

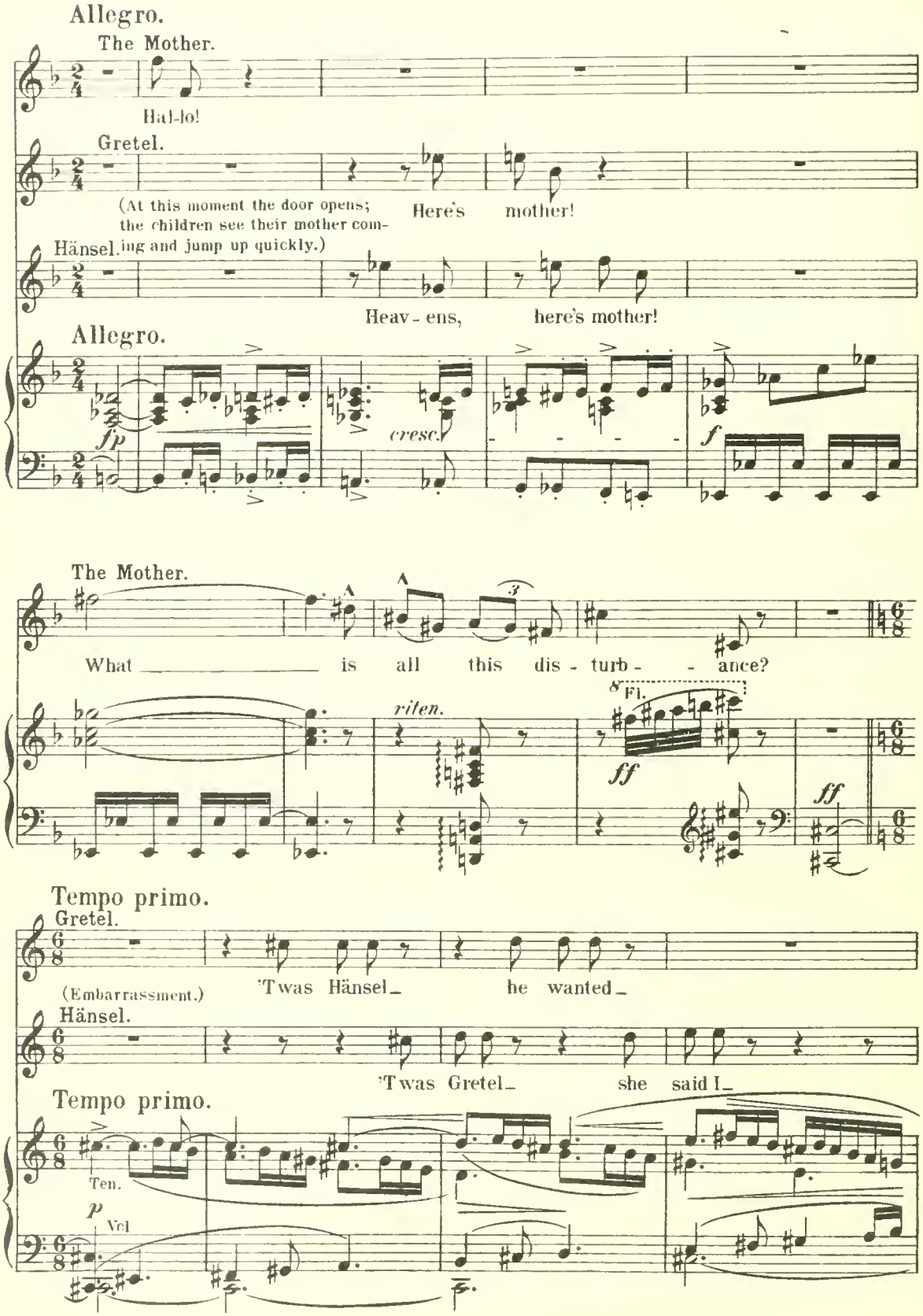
la!

la!

f *f* *ff* *ff*

Hr. Str.

Scene II.


Allegro.
The Mother.
Hal-lo!
Gretel.
(At this moment the door opens; the children see their mother coming and jump up quickly.)
Here's mother!
Hänsel.
Heav-ens, here's mother!
Allegro.
fp
cresc.
f
The Mother.
What is all this dis-turb-ance?
riten.
Fl.
ff
ff
Tempo primo.
Gretel.
(Embarrassment.)
'Twas Hänsel he wanted
Hänsel.
'Twas Gretel she said I
Tempo primo.
Ten.
p
Vcl

Mother (comes in, unstraps her basket and sets it down.)

Si - - lence, id - le and ill behaved chil - dren!

Ten. Wind. Vcl. *cresc.* *f*

Call you it work - ing, yodelling and singing? As though't were fair - time,

fp *cresc.*

hop - ping and springing? And while your pa - rents from

Cl. Hb. Vl. *f* *p* Bass.

ear - ly morn - ing Till late at night are slav - ing and toil - ing.

poco rallent. *Tempo*

Hb. *poco rallent.* *Tempo* *f*

(gives Hänsel a box on the ear.)

Take that! Now come let's see what you've

Vl. *mf* *ff*

(turning round)

done! Why Gre-tel, your stock - ing not rea-dy

Vl. Hb. Fl. *ff* *fp* Vcl. *fp*

yet? And you, you la - zy bones, have you no-thing to show? pray how many brooms have you

f *p* *fp*

fin-ished? I'll fetch my stick, you use - less

Hb. Vl. Cl. *f*

children, And make your id - le fing - ers ting - le!

Vl.

p *cresc.* *fp*

(In her anger at the children she gives the milkjug a knock, which sends it clattering on to the floor.)

fp *cresc.* *ff*

Gra-cious! There goes the jug all to pie-ces!

dimin. *f*

(weeping)

What now can I cook for sup-per?

(She looks at her skirt, down which

Hb.

dimin. *pp*

the milk is streaming.)

(Hänsel covertly titters.)

How, sau - cy how dare you

espressivo

Cl.

m.s.

cresc.

Bass.

p espressivo

(Going with a stick after Hänsel, who is running out at the door.)

laugh? Wait, wait till the fa - ther comes home!

Vl.

m.s.

m. d.

ff

dim.

(With sudden energy she snatches a basket from the wall and thrusts it into Gretel's hand.)

Off, off to the wood!

Vl.

p

there seek for straw - berries quick away! And if you don't

cresc.

bring the bas-ket brim - ful I'll whip_ you so that you'll

ff

(The children run into the forest.)

both _____ run a - way!

Hr.

f

ff

dim.

(She sits down by the table, exhausted.)

p Ten.

Vcl.

Vl.
espressivo.

A - - las! There my poor jug lies in pie - - - ces!

f *dim.* *p*

Yes, blind ex - cite - ment on-ly brings ru - - in.

fp Vl. *f*

(wringing her hands) (sobbing)

O God, send help to me! Nought have I to give them,

molto espressivo *p*

No bread, not a crumb for my starv - ing child - ren!

Vcl. *p* *p*

No crust in the cup - board No milk in the pot,

Fl. Hb. Bass.

(She rests her head on her hand.)

No, no - - thing but wa - - ter to drink! —

Cl. Hb. Fl. Vl.

mf *pp espress.* Ped. ✻

Wea - ry am I, weary of liv - ing!

pp Ten.

(Lays her head down on her arms and drops asleep.)

Father, send — help — to me! —

pp

Scene III.

Commodo. (A voice is heard in the distance) Father.

Tra la la la, tra la la

pp Hr.(con Sordino)

la, Lit-tle mo-ther, here am I! Tra la la la, tra la la la, Bringing luck and jol-li-

Dble B.

ty'

(somewhat nearer)

1. Oh for you and me, poor

Str.(con Sordino) *pp* *p*

mo-ther, Ev'-ry day is like the o-ther; With a big hole in the

Vcl. *cresc.*

rit. *Tempo.* (complainingly)

purse, And in the sto - mach an e - ven worse. Tra la la la, tra la la

rit. *Tempo.* *p*

la, Hun - ger is the poor man's curse! Tra la la, tra la la la

Cl. Fl. *p*

(The father appears at the window, and

la, Hun - ger is the poor man's curse!

Str. *f*

during the following he comes into the room in a very lively mood, with a basket on his back.)

dim.

2. 'Tis - n't much that we re - quire, Just a lit - tle food and
3. Yes, the rich en - joys his din-ner, While the poor grows dai - ly

p

fire! But a - las, it's true e - nough, Life on some of us is
thin - ner; Strives to eat, as well he may, Some - what less than yes-ter -

cresc.

rit. (complaining) *Tempo.*

rough! Tra la la la, tra la la la, Hun - ger is a cus-tom-er
day! Tra la la la, tra la la la, Hun - ger is the de-vil to

rit. *Tempo.*

p

tough! Tra la la, tra la la la la, Hun - ger is a cus-tom-er
pay! Tra la la, tra la la la la, Hun - ger is the de-vil to

Fl.

mf

(He puts down his basket.)

tough! pay! Yes,

Str. *ff* *dimin.* Hb. *mf*

hun - ger's all very well to feel If you can get a good square meal, But

Hr. Bass.

rit. *Tempo.*

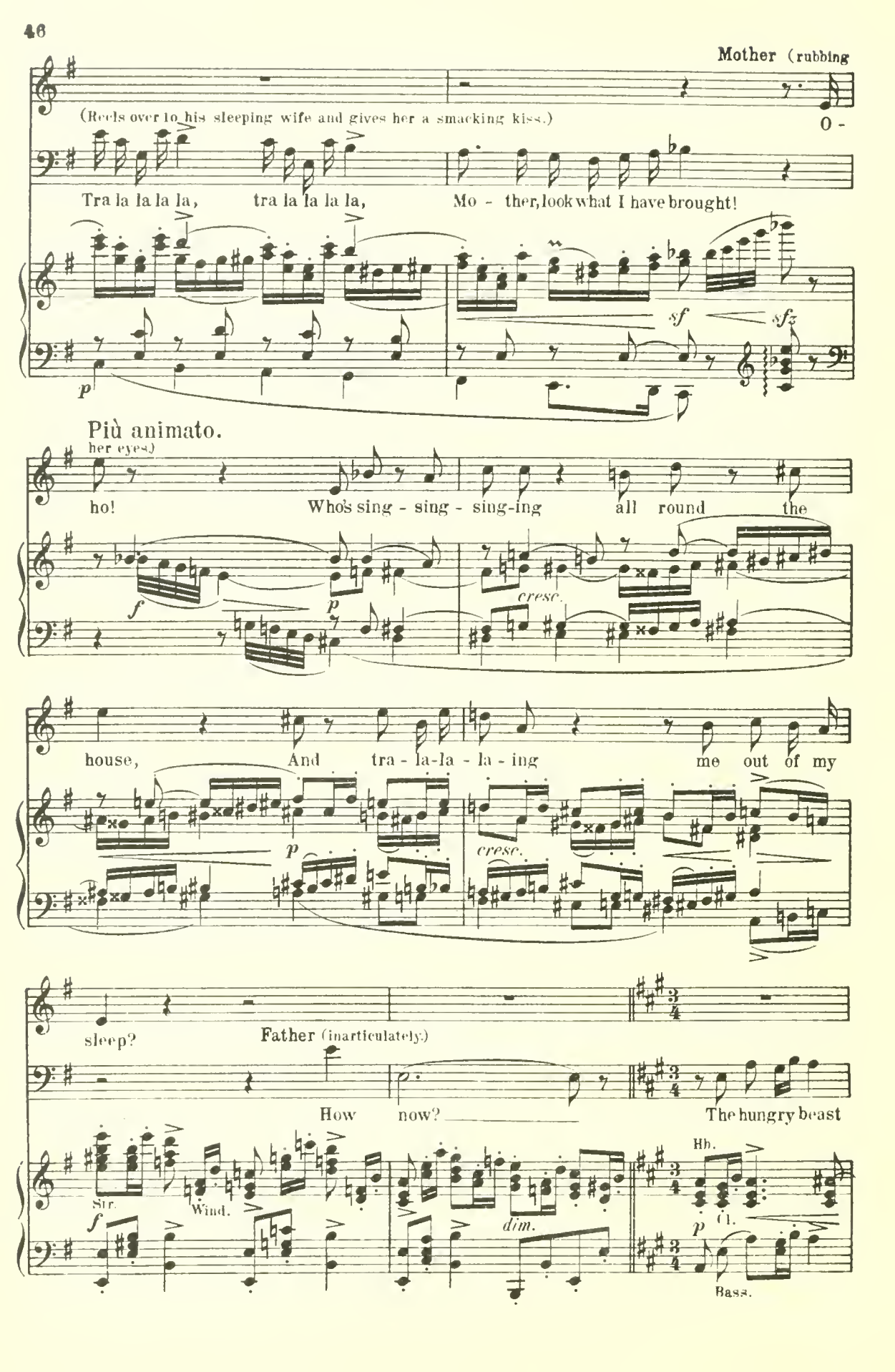
when there's nought what can you do, Sup - pos - ing the purse be emp-ty too?

Hb. Hr. Bass. *rit.* *Tempo.* Str.

Tempo.

Tra la la la, tra la la la, O for a drop of "mountain dew!"

Tempo. *mf* Fl. *mf*


Mother (rubbing her eyes)
(Reels over to his sleeping wife and gives her a smacking kiss.)
O -
Tra la la la la, tra la la la la,
Mo - ther, look what I have brought!
p
sf
sfz
Più animato.
ho! Who's sing - sing - sing-ing all round the
f
p
cresc.
house, And tra - la-la - la - ing me out of my
p
cresc.
sleep?
Father (inarticulately.)
How now?
The hungry beast
Str.
f
Wind.
dim.
Hb.
Cl.
p
Bass.

Father.

With - in my breast Cal-led so for food I could not

p *p* *p*

rest! Tra la la, tra la la la, Hun - ger is an ur-gent

Fl. *f*

Dble B.

beast, Tra la la, tra la la la la, Pinch - es, gnaws, and gives no

Vl. Wind. *mf* Bass.

Mother.

So, so! And this wild beast,

rest!

Wind. *f* *dimin.* Vl. *p* Vcl.

You gave him a feast, He's had his fill, To say the

least!

Father.

Well yes! Hm! it was a love-ly

f *dimin.* *p* Cl.

(Pushing him angrily from her.)

(Wants to kiss her) Have done! You have no troubles to

day... don't you think so, dear wife?

Fl. *f* *p* Bass.

bear, 'tis I must keep the house!

Well, well!

cresc. *f*

(Turning to his basket.)

then let us see, my dear, What we have got to eat to -

f *f* *f* *f* *f* *mf* (pizz.)

Un poco più moderato.

Mother.

Most sim - ple is the bill of

Father.

day?

Un poco più moderato.

Cl. *p*

fare, Our sup-per's gone, the Lord knows where!

Hb. Cl. *cresc.*

rit. *a tempo* *ritard.*

Lar der bare, cel - lar bare, Nothing, and plen - ty of it to

rit. *a tempo* Fl. Bass. *p* *ritard.* *dim.*

Come prima.

spare!

Father.

Tra la la la, tra la la la, cheer up, mo - ther, for here am I,

Come prima.

f

Bringing luck and jol - li - ty!

dimin.

(he takes his basket and begins to display the contents.)

Look, mother! doesn't all this

p

Str.

Mother.

Man, man, what

food please you?

see I? Ham and but-ter— flour and

(Helping him to unpack it)

sau-sage— Eggs, a do-zen— (Hus-band, and they

Bass.

cost a for-tune!) *accelerando* Tur-nips,— on-ions,—

p

and— for me! Near-ly half — a pound of

ritard.

Cl. Hb. *ritard.*

cresc.

a tempo (He turns the basket topsy-turvy, and a lot of potatoes roll out.)

tea! —

a tempo

Vl. *p* *cresc.*

Tempo come prima.

Father. (He seizes her by the arm and dances round the room with her.)

Tra la la la, tra la la la, tra la la la la, hip hur-rah,

f

Mother (joining in.)

Tra la la la, tra la la la, tra la la la la,

Won't we have a festive time! tra la la la, tra la la la la,

tr *f*

hip hur-rah. Won't we have a hap-py time! —

hip hur-rah. Won't we have a festive time! — Now

cresc.

(He sits down. The mother

lis-ten, how it all came to pass!

Cl. *f* Hr. *dimin.*

Hr. Ten. *mf* Vcl. *dimin.*

Ped. *

meanwhile packs away the things, lights a fire, breaks eggs into a saucepan, etc.)

Yon - der to the town I went, There was to be a great e - -vent,

Bass. *p*

Weddings, fairs and pre - pa - ra - tion For all kinds of ju - bi - la - tion!

mf Hr. Cl. Bass.

Now's my chance to do some sel - ling,

Hb. *p* Fl. Vl. Vcl.

So for that you may be thank - ful! He who

Cl. Vl. *f* *dim.*

wants a feast to keep, He must scrub and brush and sweep,

Fl. *p* Hb.

So I brought my best goods out, Tramped with them from house to house:

Vl. Fl. Ten. p

"Buy be - soms! good be - soms!

p Hb. mf Fl. 8

Buy my brush - es, sweep your car - pets, sweep your cob - webs!"

And so I drove a roar - ing trade, And sold my brush - es at the

f f f f mf

high - - - - - est pri - - - ces!

Vl. p cresc. f

(He knocks down some tinpots off the chimneypiece with a clatter.)

Now make haste with cup and plat-ter, Bring the glass-es, bring the ket-tle:

p

Mother.

Here's a health to the be-som-

Here's a health to the be- - som-

f *p*

ma - ker! (He puts the glass of toddy to his lips, but suddenly stops short.)

ma - ker! But stay, why, where are the children?

f *ff*

(Shrugs her shoulders with a puzzled air.)

Gone with Hans? Oh!

Hänsel, Gre-tel, what's gone with Hans?

Un poco più animato.

f *f* *p*

Vl. Str.

Mother.

who's to know? But at least I do know this — That the

Cl. Vl. Hb. Ten.

jug is smashed to bits. And the

Father. (angrily)

What? — the jug is smashed to bits?

Vl. Trb. Wind. Str.

cream all ran a - - way! (Striking his fist on the table in a rage.)

Hang it all! So those little scapegra-ces Have

Vl. cresc. - - -

been a - gain in mischief?

(hastily) Been in

Vl Trp.

Mother.

mischief! I should think so! Nothing have they done but their mad prank-ing;

Vl. Fl. Vl.

As I came home I could hear them Hopping and cutting the wildest ca - pers,

Fl.

Till I was so cross that I gave a push—

Father.

And the

p *fp* *fp cresc.*

And the jug of milk was

jug— milk was

f *f*

Più animato.

spilt!

(laughing with all his might)

spilt! Ha ha ha ha ha! Ha

Più animato.

f

(joining in)

Ha ha ha ha ha! Ha

ha ha ha ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha

f

ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha

ha! Ha ha ha ha! Such

f

f

ha! Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha!

an - - - ger, mo - ther, don't take it

p

dim.

Ha! Ha!

ill, seems stu - pid to me, I must

Hb. Vl. Ten.

(snappishly and curt.)

For aught I know, at the

say! But where, where think you the children can be?

Vl. Hr.

Il-sen-stein! (horrorstruck.)

The Il - sen-stein! (fetches a broom from the wall.) Come, come, have a care!

Wind. Vl. Hr. Cl.

cresc. - - - - *f* *p* (pizz.) *fp* Vcl.

Ped. ✻

Mother. (with an expression of contempt.)

The be - som, just put it a - way a -

Fl. *f* *f* Dr.

(He lets the broom fall and wrings his hands.)

Un poco ritenuto.

gain! Father. My chil- -dren astray in the

Un poco ritenuto.

Wind

dimin. *poco riten.* *p* *pp*

a tempo

O gloom-y wood, all a - lone without moon or stars?

Vl. *a tempo* Hr. *p* Vcl.

Come prima.

Heaven! Dost thou not know the aw-ful ma - gic place, the

Come prima.

pp

a tempo I.

(surprized)

The e - vil one? What mean'st thou? (with place where the e-vil one dwells? The

a tempo I.

p Trp.

Vcl.

Un poco ritenuto.

(starting back) *a tempo* (draws back)

mysterious emphasis) The gobbling ogress? He picks up the besom again. But —

gobbling ogress?

Un poco ritenuto.

Fl. Trp. Hr. *a tempo* Vcl.

p *dimin.* *p*

Dble B.

tell me, what help is the be - som?

The be - som, the be - som, why

Bass.

p

what is it for, why what is it for? They ride on it, they ride on it, the

Hb. Cl.

cresc.

witch - - es!

f *p* *dimin.*

An old witch with-in that wood doth dwell, And she's in league with the

p (pizz.)

powers of hell. At mid-night hour, when

Wind. *p* (pizz.)

nobody knows, A-way to the witches' dance — she goes.

cresc. *mf*

Up the chimney they fly, — on a broomstick they hie, —

Cl. Vl. Ten. *p* *p*

Ped.

— O - ver hill and dale, o'er ra - vine and vale, through the

cresc. *p*

mid - night air they gal-lop full tear— on a broomstick, on a

cresc. *f*

broomstick, hop, hop, hop, hop, the witch - es! O hor - ror!

Mother.

p *cresc.* *f* *dim.*

But the gob-bling witch?

Father.

And by day, they say, she

Hr.

p (pizz.)

stalks a - round with a crinch - ing, crunch - ing, munch - ing sound, and

Vl.

children plump and tender to eat she lures with ma - gic ginger-bread sweet.

Vl.

Bass.

dolce

Bass.

Un poco più animato.

On e - - vil bent, with

mf

p

fell intent she lures the chil - dren, poor little things, in the

o - ven red hot she pops all the lot; she shuts the door down, un -

p *p* *cresc.*

til they're done brown In the o - - ven, in the

mf

Un poco ritenuto.

(expressively)

o - - ven, the gin - - ger-bread

p *cresc.* Vl. Hb. *fp*

a tempo Mother.

And the ginger-bread children?

chil - dren! Are

a tempo

Hr. *dolce* *pp*

Ped. ✻ Ped. ✻

(wringing her hands)

For the ogress? O horror! Heav'n help us! the

served up for dinner! For the ogress!

pp *pp* *cresc.*

(runs out of the house.)

children! O what shall we do!

Hi, mother, mother,

f *f* *f*

(takes the whisky bottle from the table and runs after her.)

wait for me! We'll both go to - gether the witch to seek!

f Wind. *ff* *f*

(The curtain falls quickly.)

ff

Ped. Ped. Vi =

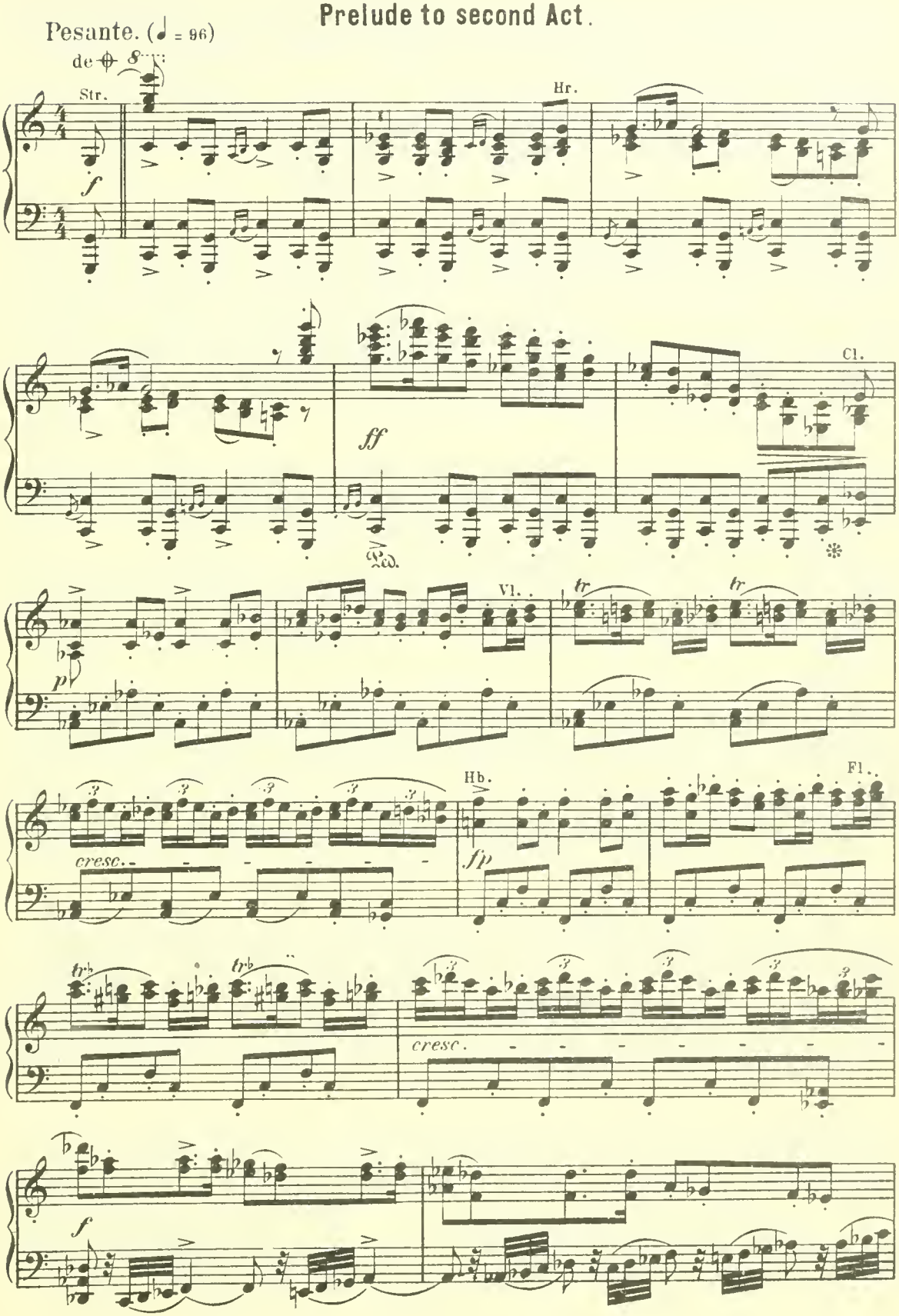
ff

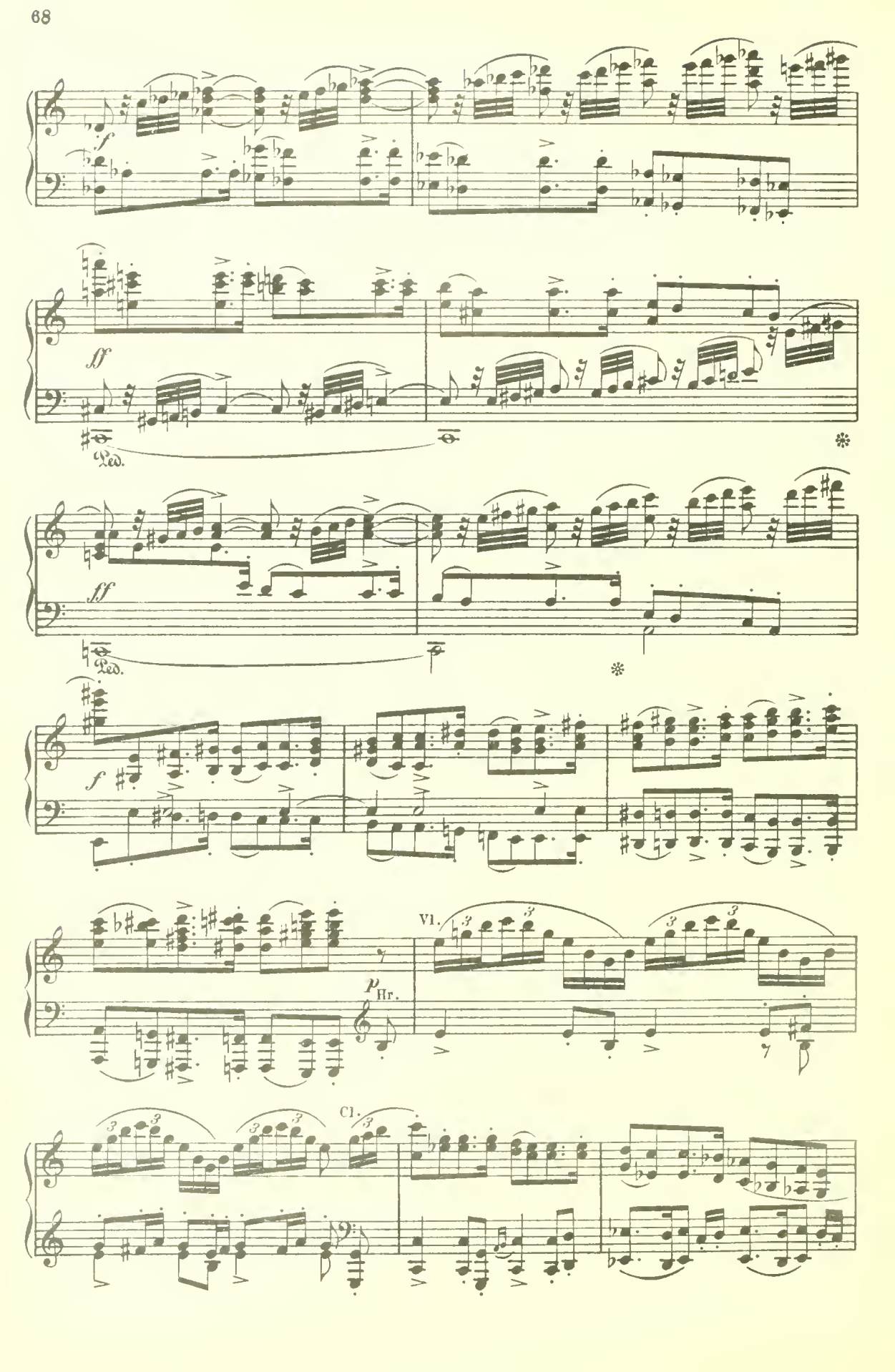
(Prelude to the 2nd Act)

Goes on to the "Witches' Ride"

The Witches' Ride.

Prelude to second Act.




f
ff
Ped.
ff
Ped.
f
Vl.
p Hr.
Cl.

Hb.

p

Fl.

Cl.

Fl.

cresc.

Poco a poco più animato.

Vl.

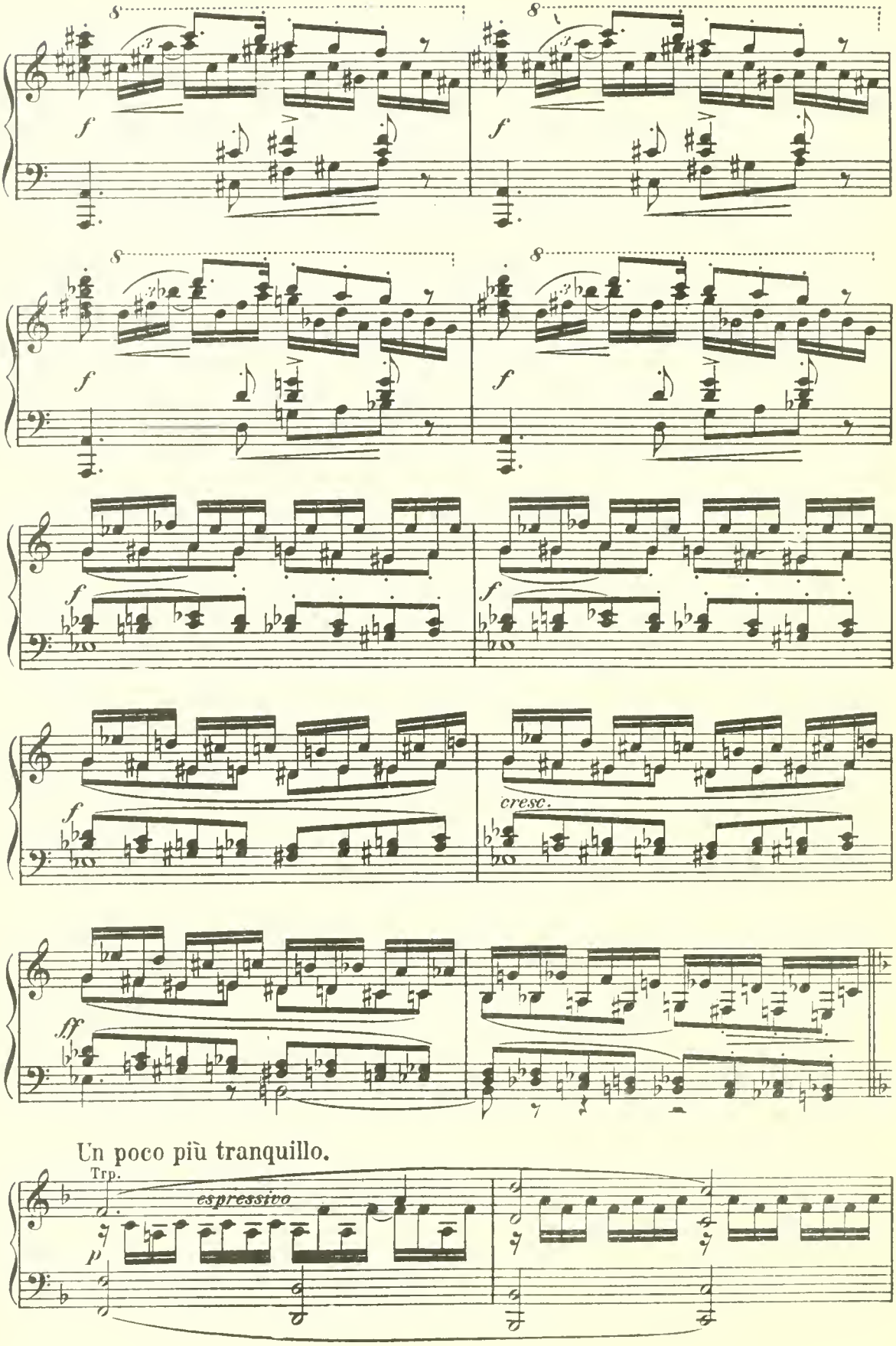
fp

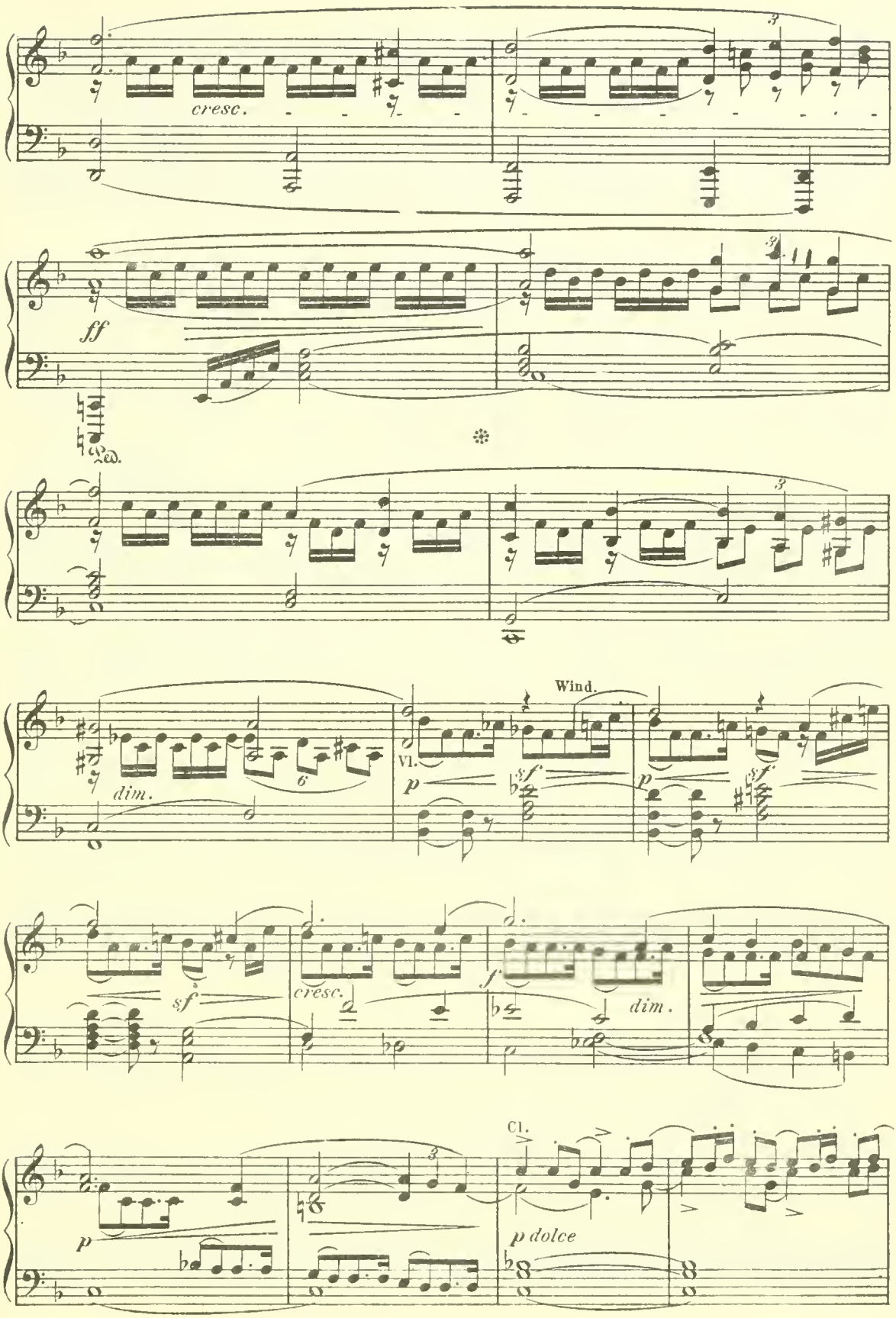
stacc.

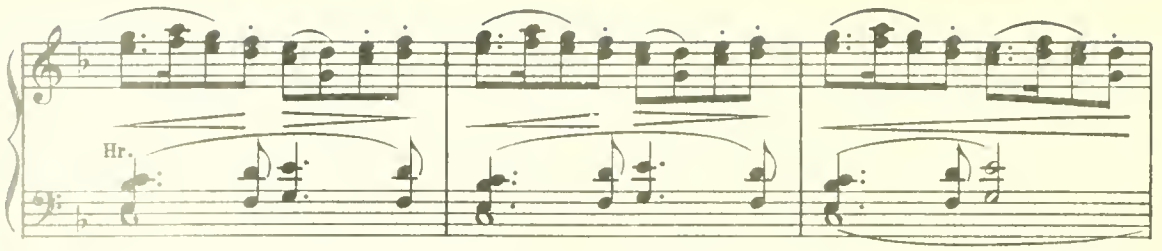
p *cresc.*

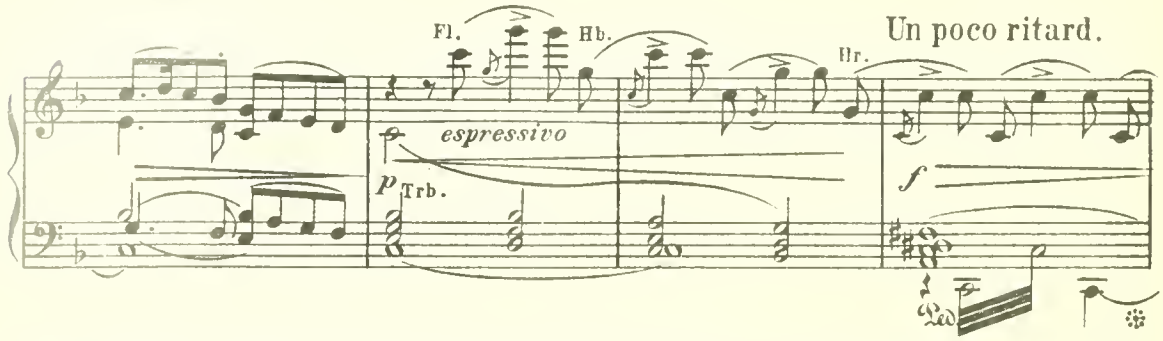
fp

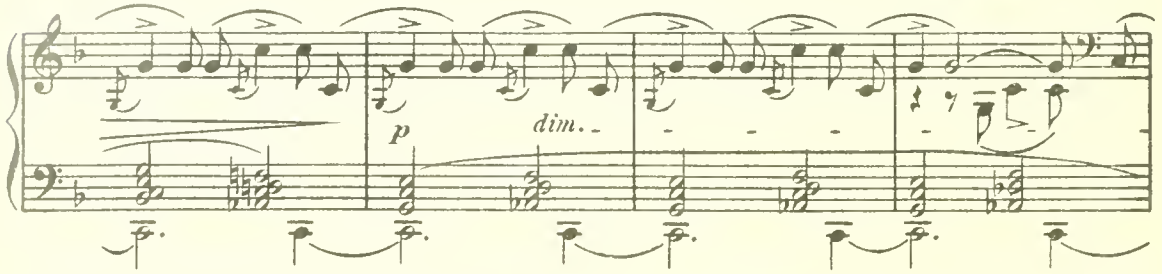
p cresc.


8
f
cresc.
ff
Un poco più tranquillo.
Trp.
espressivo
p


cresc.
ff
Ped.
dim.
Vl.
Wind.
p
sf
cresc.
f
dim.
Cl.
p dolce



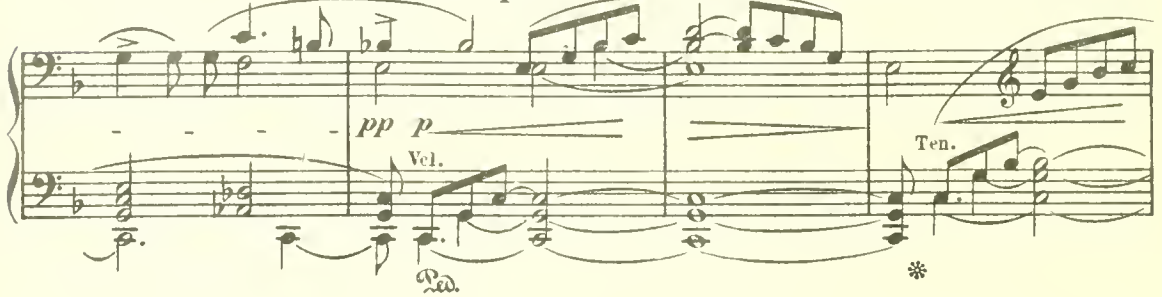




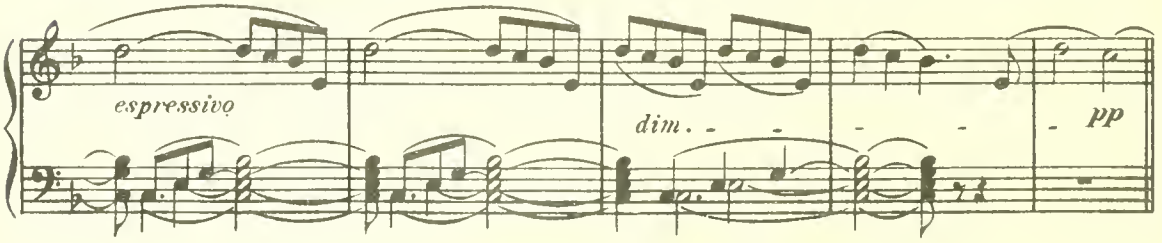
(The curtain rises.)

Molto tranquillo.

(The middle of the forest. In the background



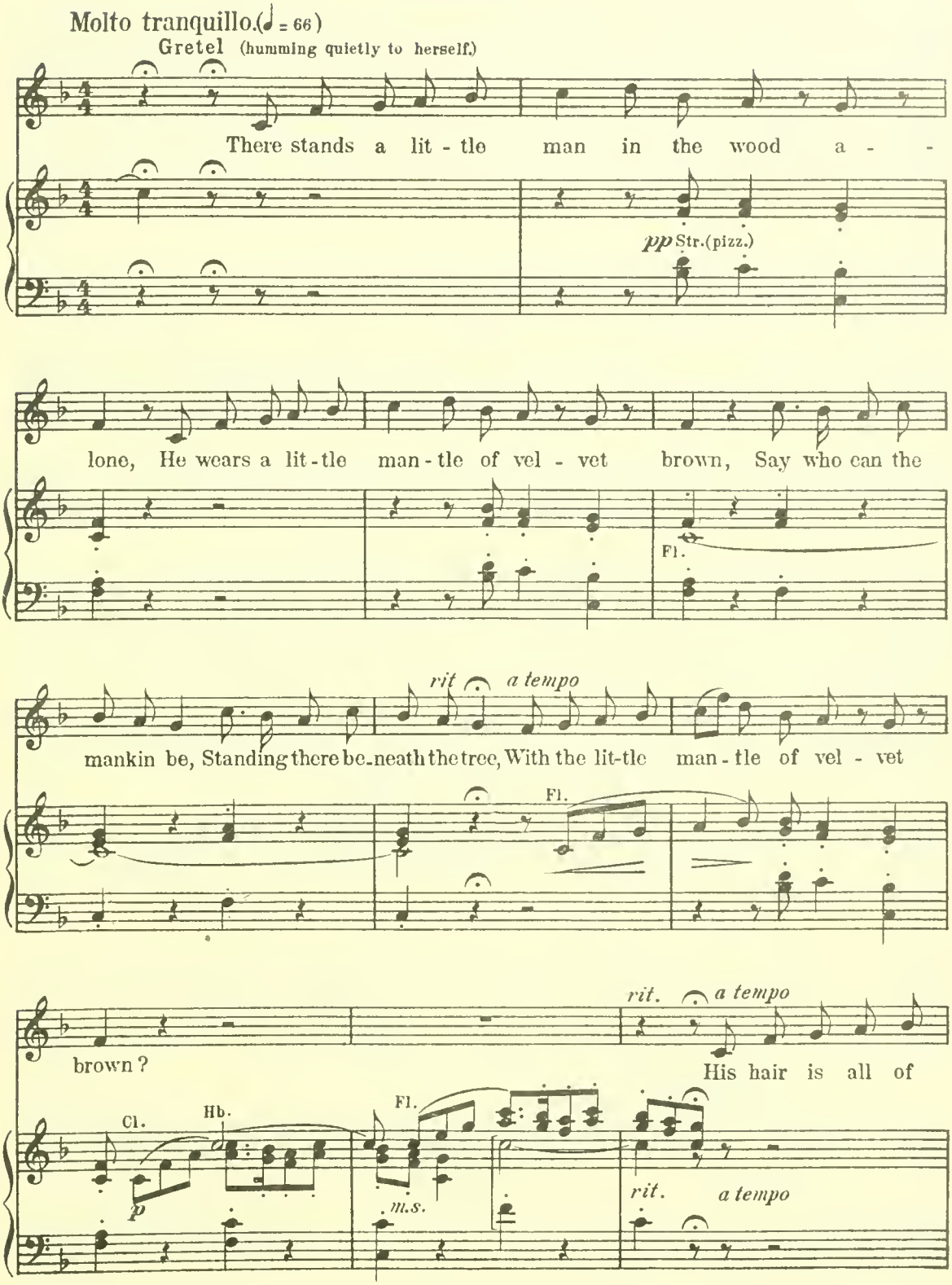
is the "Hisenstein", thickly surrounded by fir-trees. On the right is a large fir-tree, under which Gretel is sitting on a mossy tree-trunk, and making a garland of wild roses. By her side lies a nosegay of flowers. Amongst the bushes on the left is Hänsel, looking for strawberries. Sunset.)



Second Act.

In the forest.

Scene I.



gold, and his cheeks are red, He wears a lit - tle black cap up - on his

Fl. pp

head, Say who can the mankin be, Standing there so si - lently, With the little

Hr. Fl.

(She holds up the garland of roses and looks it all round)

black cap up-on his head?

Hr. p Hb. m.s. Cl. Hr.

With the little black cap up-on his

Fl. p

Poco animato come prima. (♩ = 84)

head?

Hänsel (comes out swinging his basket joyfully.)

Hur - rah! My strawberry bas-ket is near - ly

Poco animato come prima. (♩ = 84)

f

Gretel (standing up.)

My

brimful! O won't the mo-ther be pleased with Hän - sel!

f *p* Str. Vl. *p*

garland is rea-dy al - so! Look, I nev-er made one so nice be-

Fl. *p* Str. *p*

(she tries to put the wreath on Hänsel's head.)

fore!

Hänsel (drawing back roughly.)

You won't catch a boy wear - ing that!

Hb. Cl. Bass. *p* *cresc.* *f* Str. Cl. *p*

(puts the wreath on her.)

It is on-ly fit for a girl! Ha, Gre-tel,

Hr. Cl. Vl. Bass. p p Ped. ✻

fine feathers! O the deuce! Now you shall be Queen of the

Hb. cresc. f Cl. p

Gretel.

If I'm to be Queen of the wood, Then I must have the nose - gay

wood!

Hb. p Hr.

too! Hänsel (gives her the nosegay.)

Queen of the wood, with scep-tre and

Cl. Hb. p Fl. Ten.

poco riten.

crown, I give you the strawberries, but don't eat them

poco riten.

Hr.

p sf dim. pp

Tempo.

(He gives the basketful of strawberries into her other hand, at the same time kneeling before her

all!

Fl.

Cl.

Hr.

dolce

Hr.

in homage.)

Str.

Hr.

dim.

pp più p

Gretel (roguishly.)

(At this moment a cuckoo is heard.)

Cuckoo, cuckoo, where are you?

Hänsel (pointing with his hand.)

Cuckoo, cuckoo, how are you?

Cuckoo-instrument (behind the scenes, heard as if quite in the distance.)

ppp

(takes a strawberry from the basket, and pokes it into Hänsel's mouth: he sucks it up as though he were drinking an egg.)

Hänsel (springing up.)

O - ho! I can do that just like you!

(takes some strawberries and lets them fall into Gretel's mouth.)
(free and without regard to the rhythm of the cuckoo's cry.)

Let us do like the cuckoo too, Who takes more than his lawful due.

Fl.

pp

(It begins to grow dusk.)

Gretel (does the same.)

Cuckoo, where are you?

Hänsel (helping himself again.)

Cuckoo, how are you?

Fl.

p *espressivo*

Cl.

Bass.

Cl.

Gretel (helping herself.)

Cuckoo, cuckoo!

Hänsel.

In your neighbour's nest you go,

Fl.

Hb.

p

Hr.

Ten.

Bass.

Bass.

Cuckoo, cuckoo! (Hänsel pours a handful of strawberries into his mouth.)

Cuckoo, why do you do so?

And you're ve-ry greed - y too, (helping himself) Tell me, cuckoo, why are

Cuckoo, cuckoo!

Str.

p

Cl.

Poco a poco animato.

you?

(They get rude and begin to quarrel for the strawberries. Hänsel gains the victory and puts the whole basket to his mouth until it is empty.)

Cuckoo, cuckoo!

Poco a poco animato.

cresc.

Gretel (horrified, clasping her hands together.)

Hän - sel, what have you

fp

done? O Hea - ven! all the straw - - berries ea - - ten, you

Hb.

fp

glut - ton! Lis - ten, You'll have a pun - ishment

Cl.

fp

Hb.

fp

Meno mosso.

from the mo - ther, This pass - - es a joke.

Hänsel (quietly)

Now

Fl.

fp cresc. f ff

Meno mosso.

Cl.

p

Ten.

come, don't you make such a fuss, You, Gre-tel, you did the same thing your-

Hb.

Cl.

Fl.

Ten.

Più animato.

Gretel.

Come, we'll hurry and seek for fresh ones!

self!

What, here is the

Più animato.

Vl.

Wind.

p f f p mf

Vcl.

dusk, under hed-ges and bush - es? Why nought can we see of fruit or leaves!

p mf p

Un poco ritenuto. Più mosso.

Gretel.

O Hän-sel, Hän-sel, O what shall we

It's get-ting dark al-rea-dy here!

Un poco ritenuto. Più mosso.

Hb. Cl. espress. p Hr. m.d. fp

do? What bad dis-o-be-dient chil-dren we've been! We ought to have

Hb. Cl. m.d. fp

thought and gone home soon-er!

Hänsel.

Hark,

CUCKOO (behind the scenes, rather nearer than before.)

dim. Hr. espress. p Vcl.

what a noise in the bush-es!

cresc. p Vl. Ped. * Ped. *

Know you what the fo - - rest says?

dim.

Hr.

p

molto espressivo

"Chil - dren, chil - dren," it says, "are you not a - fraid?"

Solo-Violin.

p

p

(Hänsel spies all round uneasily.)

p

Vl.

p

dim. *pp*

Hr. *p*

Trb. Cl.

(At last he turns in despair to Gretel.) Hänsel.

Gre - tel,

Cl.

p

Dr.

pp

Cl.

pp *poco rit.*

Gretel (dismayed.)

O God! what say you? not know the way?

a tempo

I can-not find the way!

Cor. ing!.

(pizz.) *pp trem.* Vl. *cresc.* *espress.*

(pretending to be very brave)

Why how ri - di-culous your are! I am a boy, and

f *dim.* *p* *mf* *f*

O Hänsel, some dreadful thing may

know not fear!

ff Vl. *espress.* *p* Vcl. *cresc.*

come!

O Gretel, come, don't be a - fraid!

f *p* Bass. *f*

Gretel.

What's glimmering there in the dark - - ness?

Vl. p Ten. Vcl. Ped. *

Hänsel.

That's on - ly the bir - ches in sil - ver

Fl. p Bass. Ped. * Ped. *

Gretel.

But there, what's grin - ning so there at

dress.

p Ped. *

me?

(stammering)

Th-that's only the stump of a wil - low tree.

p Vl. Vcl. Ped. * Ped. *

Gretel (hastily.)

But what a dreadful form it takes, And what a horrid face it makes!

Hb.

p

Bass.

Dble B.

Hänsel (very loud.)

Gretel (terrified)

Come I'll make fa - ces, you fel - low! d'you hear? There — see!

Fl.

Tromb.

espress.

Dble B.

Hänsel.

a lantern, it's coming this way! Will - o' the -

cresc.

f

Hr.

dimin. -

Ped.

wisp is hop - ping a - bout. Gretel, come don't lose heart like this!

Hr.

p

Wait, I'll give a good loud call! (Goes back some steps to the back of the stage, and calls through his hands.)

cresc.

f

cresc. -

CUCKOO (in the far distance behind the scenes, scarcely audible.)

Echo.

2 Sopranos (very softly) *pppp* There!

1 Soprano (still more distant) *ppp* You there!

1 Alto (somewhat more distant) *pp* You there!

1 Alto (Behind the scene, as though coming from the Ilsenstein.) *p* You there!

Hänsel. (very loud) Who's there? (The children cower together.)

ff *f dimin.* Dr. *p* Ped.

Echo.

2 Sopranos. *ppp* Here!

2 Sopranos. *pp* Where?

Gretel (somewhat timidly.) Is someone there?

Dr. *p* *trem.* *pp* Bcl. *p espress.*

Gretel (softly.)

Did you hear? a voice said "Here!" Hänsel,

p

pp

Cl.

surely someone is near!

(weeping)

I'm frightened, I'm frightened,

Cor. ingl. Hr.

p sf p sf

con espress.

I wish I were home! I see the wood all filled with

p sf p f

gob - - lin forms!

Hänsel.

Gretelkin, stick to me close and tight, I'll

Vl.

dimin. - - - -

Wind.

p

Hr.

Ped. * Ped. *

(A thick mist rises and completely hides the background.)

I see some shad - owy

shelter you, I'll shel - - ter you!

Vl.

Wind.

p

Vcl.

Ped.

wo- men com - ing! See_____ how they nod_____ and

cresc. - - -

beck - on, beck - on! They're com - ing, they're com - ing,

p

p

(crying out)

they'll take me a - - way!_____

stringendo

p

fp cresc. - - - - - -

(Rushes horror-struck under the tree and falls on her knees, hiding herself behind Hänsel.)

Più animato.

Fa - - ther, mo - - ther, ah!

Hänsel. (At this moment the mist lifts on the left; a

See

Più animato.

ff

Ped.

little grey man is seen with a little sack on his back.)

Ah!

there, the man-kin, sis - - ter dear!

Wind. *tr*

mf Harp.

f

Ped.

(becoming weaker)

Ah!

I wonder who the mankin is?

tr

mf Harp.

mf

Ped. Ped.

Un poco più tranquillo.

(The little man approaches the children with friendly gestures, and the children gradually calm down.)

tr

p Harp.

Vl.

dimin.

pp

Vl. Solo

p espress.

Ped.

Scene II.

Moderato.

Sand-man (the Sleep-Fairy, strewing sand in the children's eyes.)

(with a soft gentle voice)

I shut the children's peep - ers, sh! And guard the lit - tle

Vl. pp (con sordino) Harp. pp Fl. pp Cl.

sleep - ers, sh! For dear - ly do I love them, sh! And glad - ly watch a -

pp pp

bove them, sh! And with my lit - tle bag of sand By

pp Vl. pp Ten. p

ev' - ry child's bed - side I stand; Then lit - tle tir - ed

Vl. tr Cl.

eye - lids close, And lit - tle limbs have sweet re - pose: And

poco ritard.

if they're good and quick - ly go to sleep,

poco ritard.

Più lento.

Then, from the starry sphere a - bove, The an - gels come with peace and love, And

Vl. *p* Fl. Cl. Ped. Ped.

send the children hap - py dreams While watch they keep!

Ob. Cor. ingl. Cl.

Then slum - - ber, slum - ber, chil - dren, slum - ber, For

Vl. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

hap - py dreams are sent you thro' the hours you sleep!

Fl. Cl. *dolce* Bass. Ped.

Hänsel (half asleep.) Gretel (ditto.)

Sand-man was there! Let us first say our evening - pray - er! (They cower down and fold their hands.)

Hr. *m. d.*

L'istesso tempo.

Gretel. *mezza voce*

When at night I go to sleep, Fourteen an-gels watch do keep, Two my head are

Hänsel. *mezza voce*

When at night I go to sleep, Fourteen an-gels watch do keep, Two my head are

L'istesso tempo.

Str. *pp*

guard - ing, Two my feet are guid - ing, Two are on my right hand,

guard - ing, Two my feet are guid - ing, Two are on my

poco cresc.

sempre p

Two are on my left hand, Two who warmly cov - er, Two who o'er me

sempre p

right hand, Two are on my left hand, Two who warmly cov - er,

Fl.

pp subito

cresc.

hov - er, Two to whom tis giv - en To guide my steps to Hea - -

poco rit.

Two who o'er me hov - - er, Two who guide my steps to Hea - -

Vl.

poco rit.

Tempo.

ven. (They sink down on the moss, and go to sleep with their arms twined round each other.)

ven.

Tempo.

Wind.

pp

Vcl.

Ped. *

poco ritard.

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

(Complete darkness.)

Tempo.

(Here a bright light

Vl.

pp

rit.

pp

Hr.

suddenly breaks through the mist, which forthwith rolls itself together into the form of a

Con espressione.

Hr. Str.

p

staircase vanishing in perspective in the middle of the stage.)

p

dimin.

Ped.

Scene III.

Pantomime.

Poco a poco più animato.

(Fourteen angels, in light floating garments, pass down the staircase two and two, at

Vcl.

espress.

p

Harp.

Ped.

Cl.

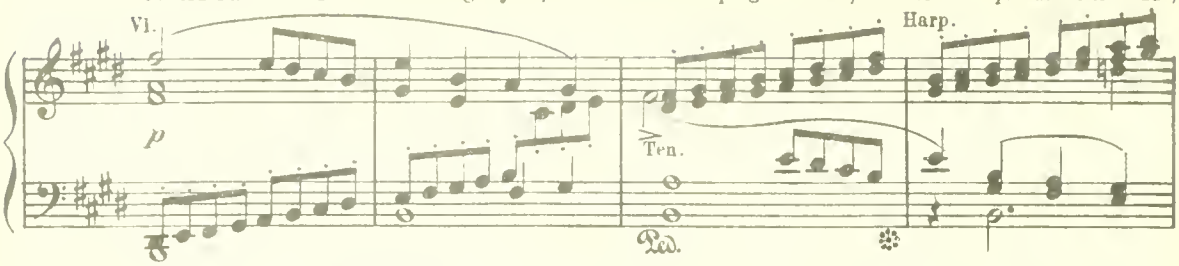
Hr.

Ped.

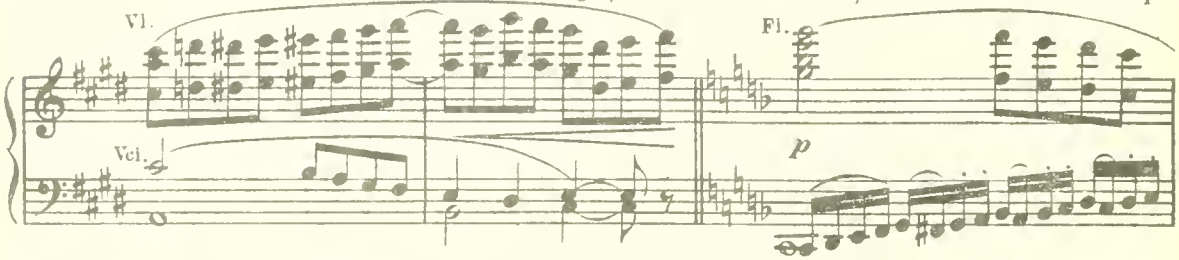
intervals, while it is getting gradually lighter. The angels place themselves, according to

Fl.

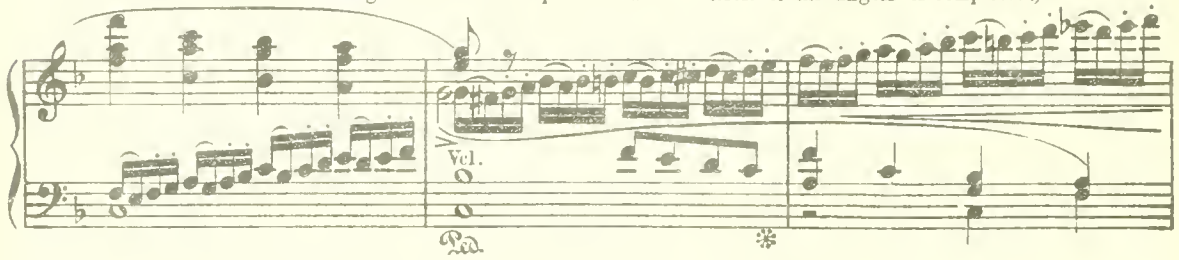
the order mentioned in the evening hymn, around the sleeping children; the first couple at their heads,

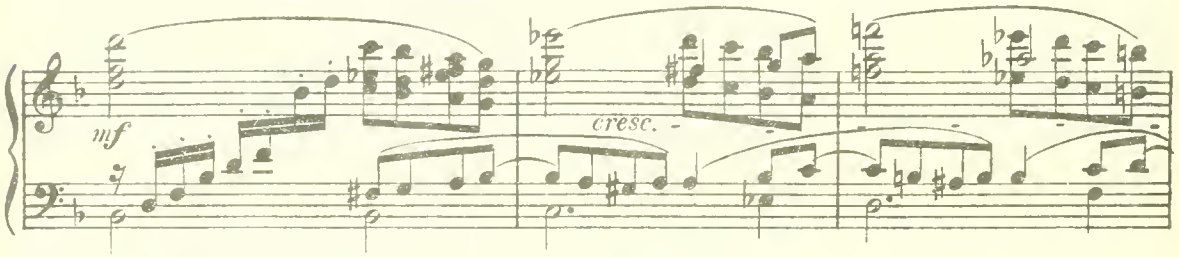


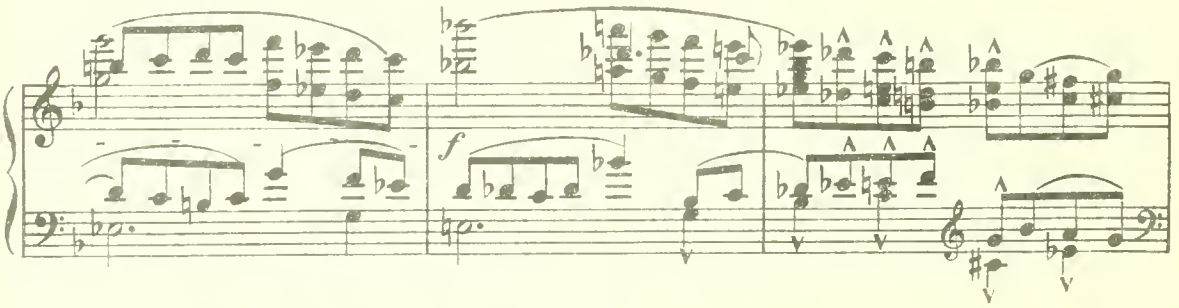
the second at their feet, the third on the right, the fourth on the left; then the fifth and sixth couples

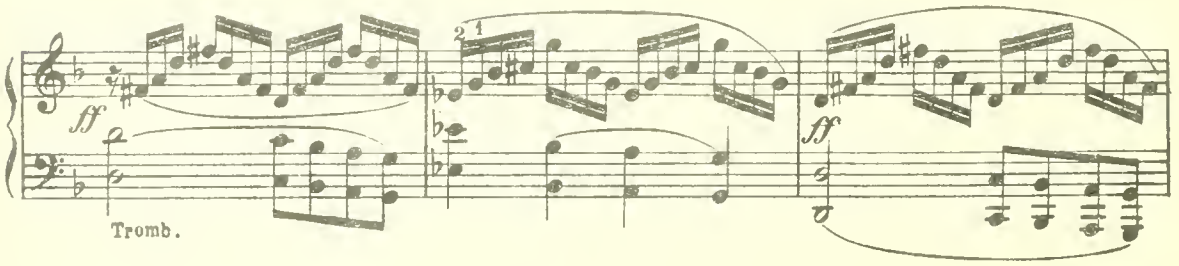


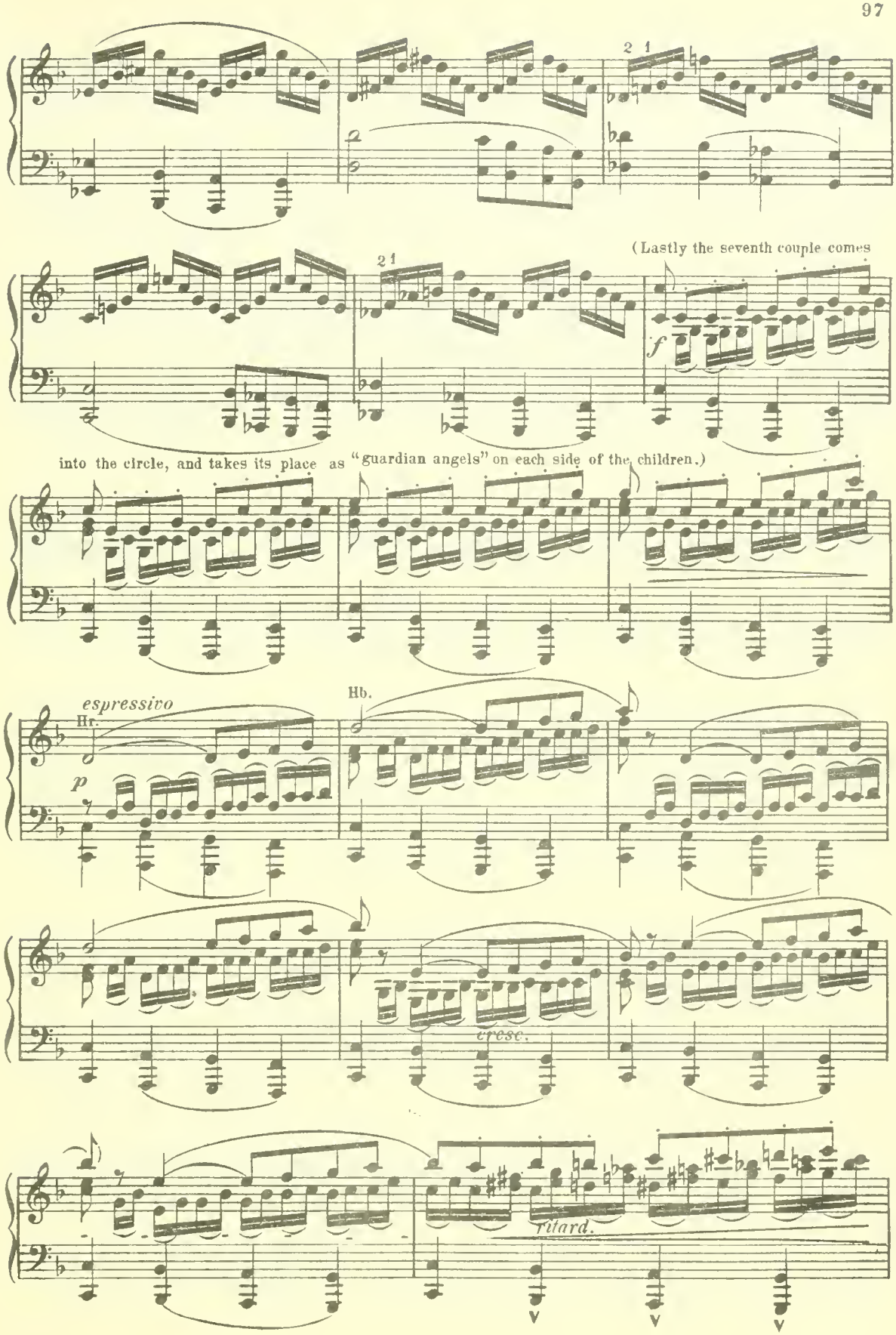
distribute themselves amongst the other couples so that the circle of the angels is completed.)



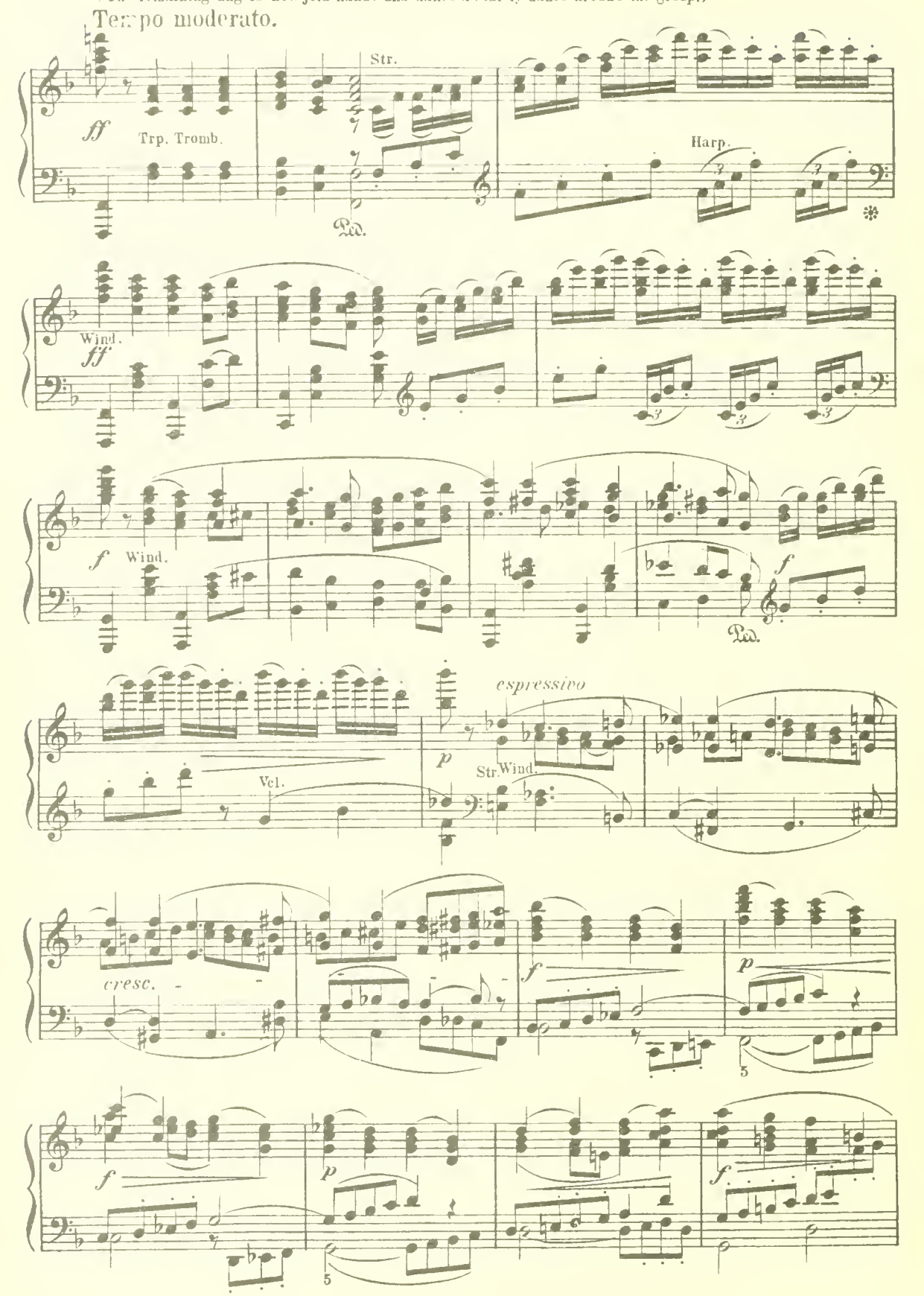


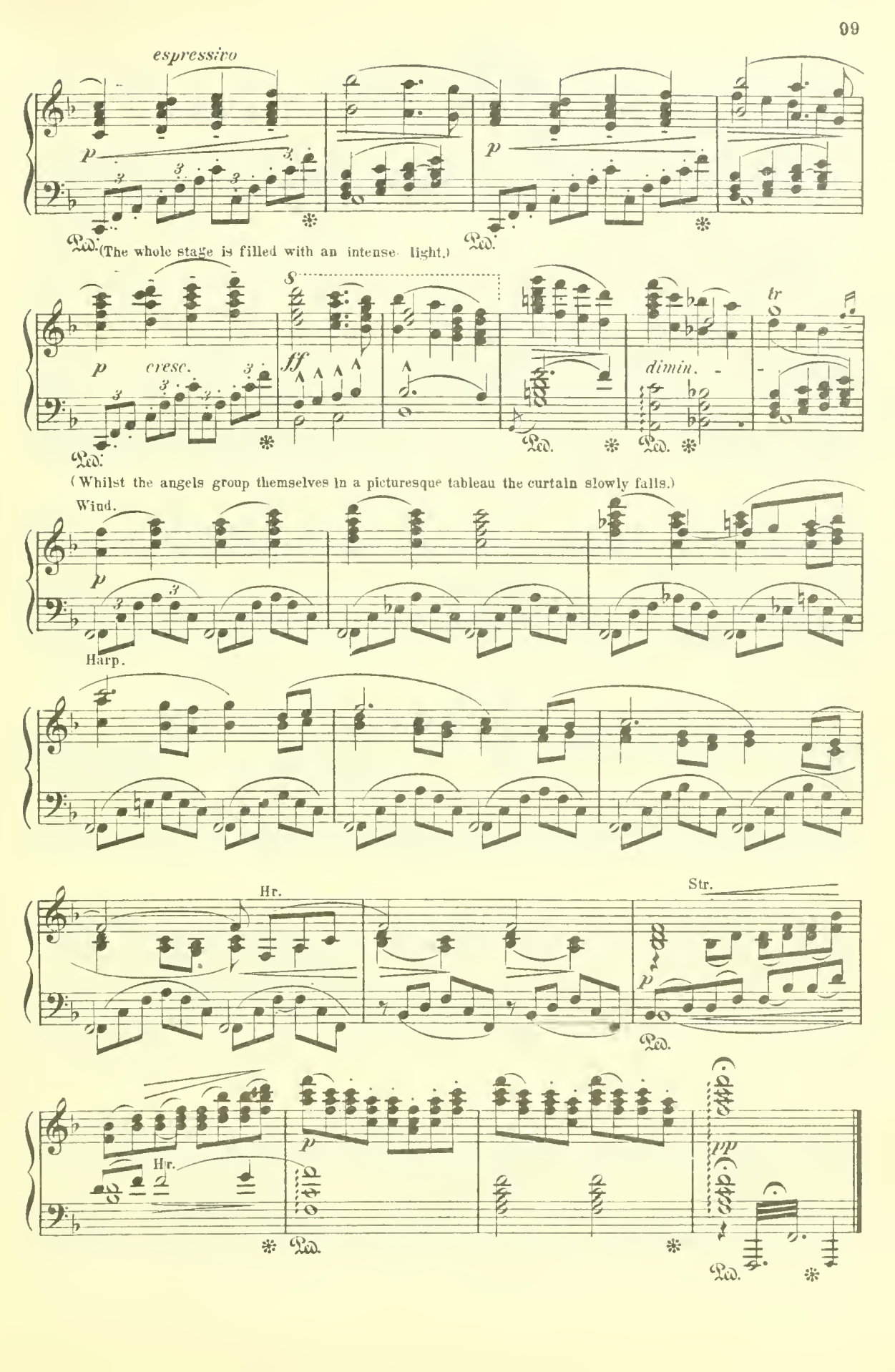





(Lastly the seventh couple comes
into the circle, and takes its place as "guardian angels" on each side of the children.)
espressivo
Hr.
Hb.
cresc.
ritard.

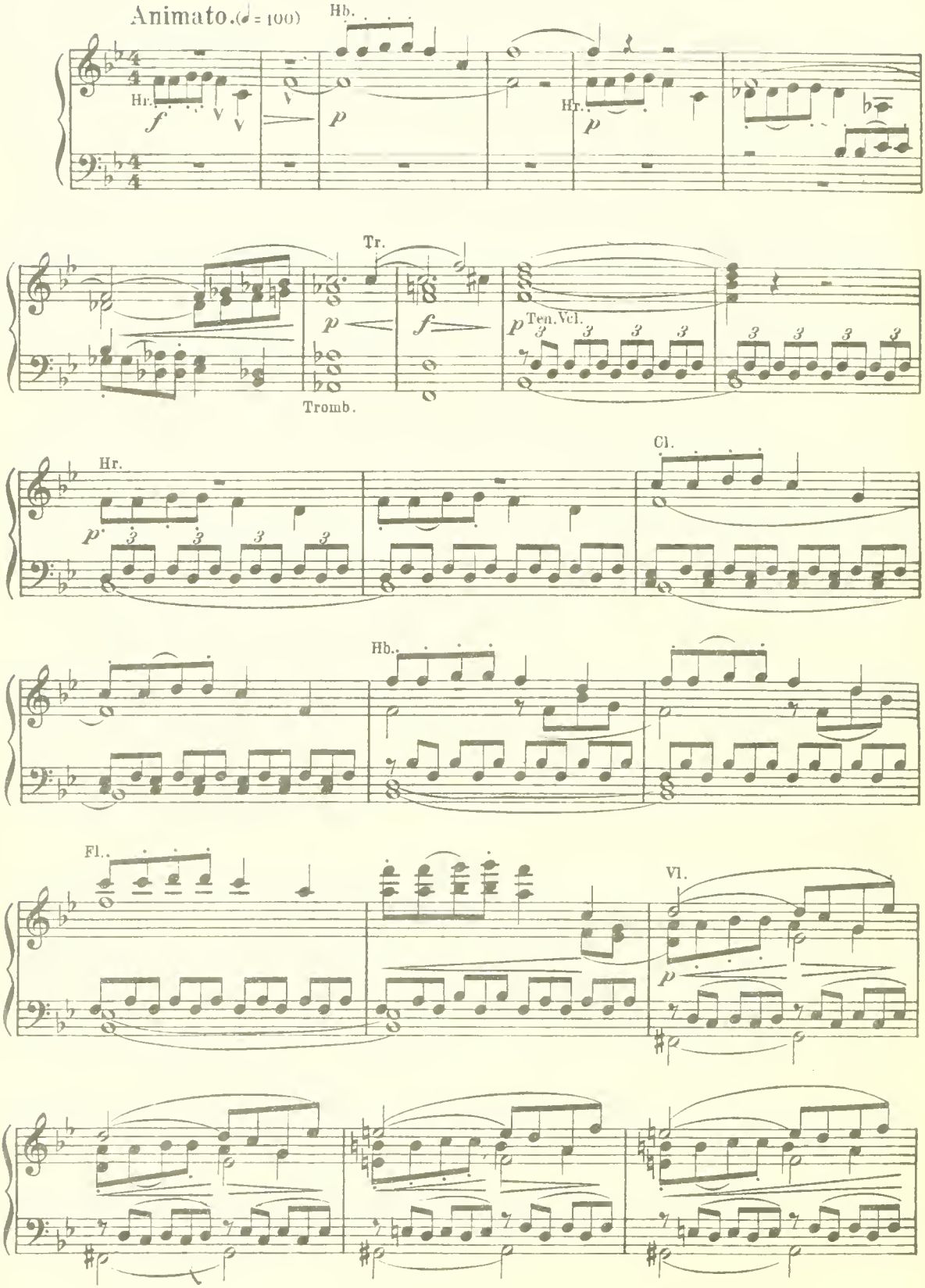
(The remaining angels now join hands and dance a stately dance around the group.)

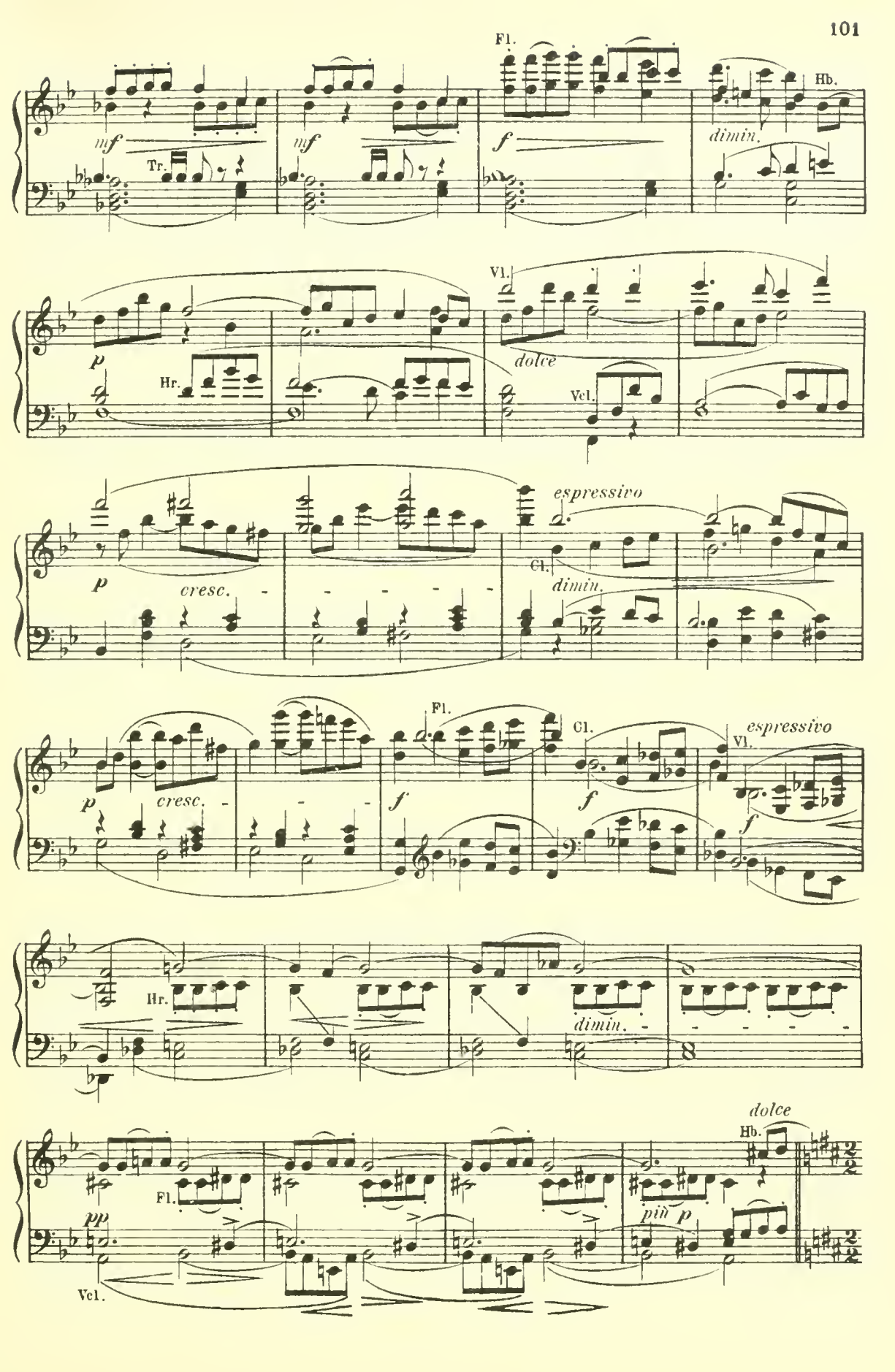



espressivo
p
Ped.
(The whole stage is filled with an intense light.)
p
cresc.
ff
dimin.
tr
(Whilst the angels group themselves in a picturesque tableau the curtain slowly falls.)
Wind.
Harp.
Hr.
Str.
Hr.
dd

Third Act.

The Witch's House.




Fl.
Hb.
mf
Tr.
mf
f
dimin.
Vl.
p
Hr.
dolce
Vcl.
espressivo
p
cresc.
Cl.
dimin.
p
cresc.
Fl.
f
Cl.
f
Vl.
espressivo
f
Hr.
dimin.
dolce
Hb.
Fl.
pp
più p
Vcl.

Accelerando assai.

Vcl. Bass.

poco a poco cresc.

sempre con Ped.

string.

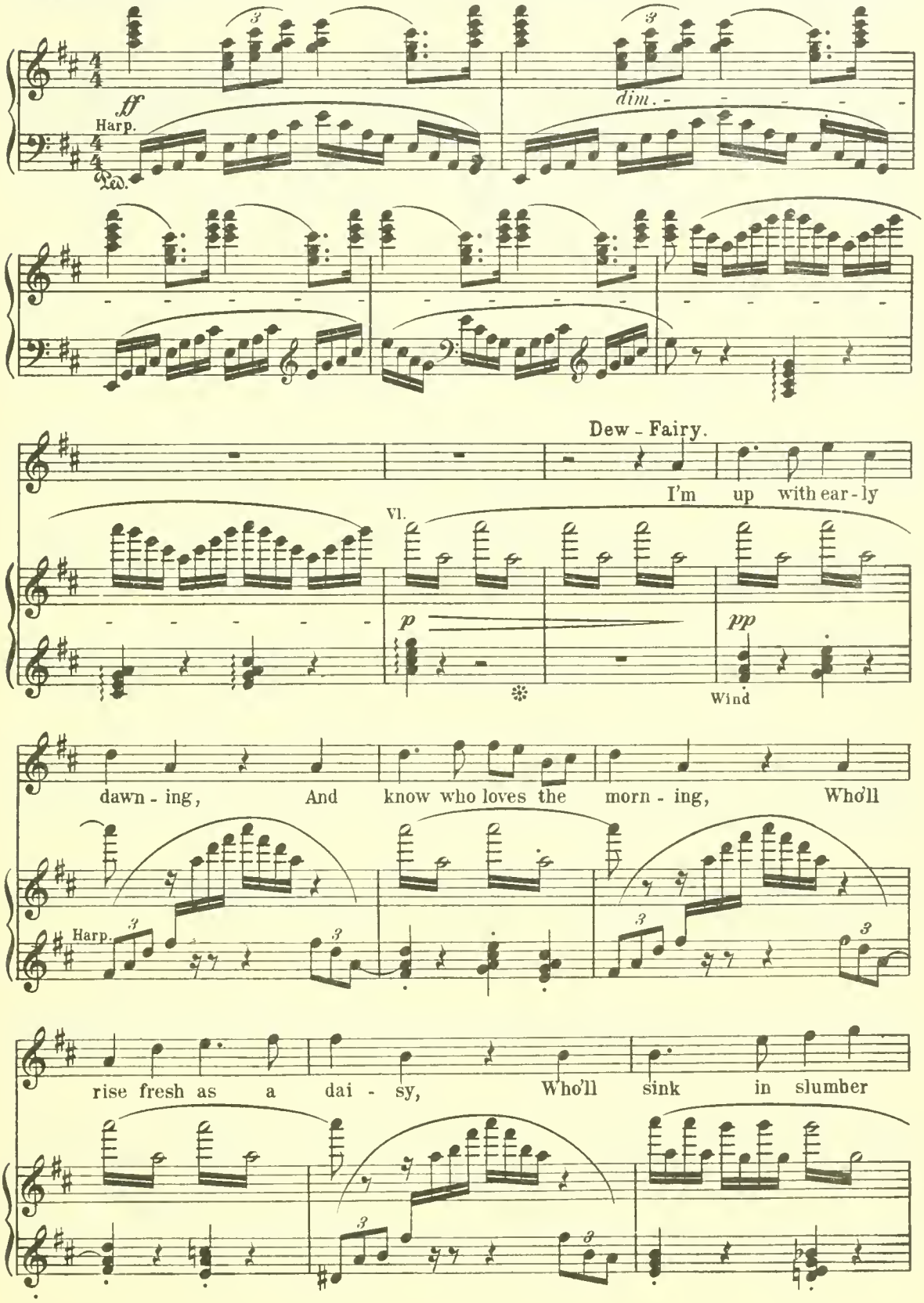
Wind.

Allegro non troppo. (♩=80)

(The curtain rises.)

Scene I.

(Scene the same as at the end of Act II. The background is still hidden in mist, which gradually rises during the following. The angels have vanished. Morning is breaking. The Dew-Fairy steps forward and shakes dewdrops from a blue-bell over the sleeping children.)



la - zy, ding! dong! ding!

dong! And with the golden light of day I chase the fa - ding

Hb.

p *espressivo*

night a - way, Fresh dew around me sha - - king, And hill and dale a -

Fl.

wa - - king; Then up, with all your pow - ers En - joy the morning

hours,— The scent of trees and flow-ers, Then up, ye sleep-ers a-

wa- - -ken! The ro-sy dawn is smi- -

Fl. Trp. Vl.

p

sempre con Ped.

ling, Then up, ye sleep-ers, a-wake, a- -

cresc. *f* *dimin.*

Ped. *

(Hurries off singing. The children begin to stir.)

wake!

ritenuto *tr* *tr* *8*

p *più p*

Un poco più lento.

Gretel (rubs her eyes, looks around her, and raises herself a little, whilst Hänsel turns over on the other side to go to sleep again.)

Where am I? Wa - king? Or do I dream?

pp

Str.

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

How come I in the wood to lie?

Cl. *espressivo*

p

espressivo

p Vl. Ten.

High in the

Vl. Solo

tr

branch - es I hear a gentle twittering, Birds are be-

tr

Ped. * Ped.

gin - ning to sing so sweet - - ly; From ear - ly

tr

Fl.

Hr.

dawn they are all a - wake, And war - ble their morning hymn —

Vl.

Ped. * Vcl.

— of grate - ful praise. Dear lit - tle sing - ers, lit - - tle

Hb.

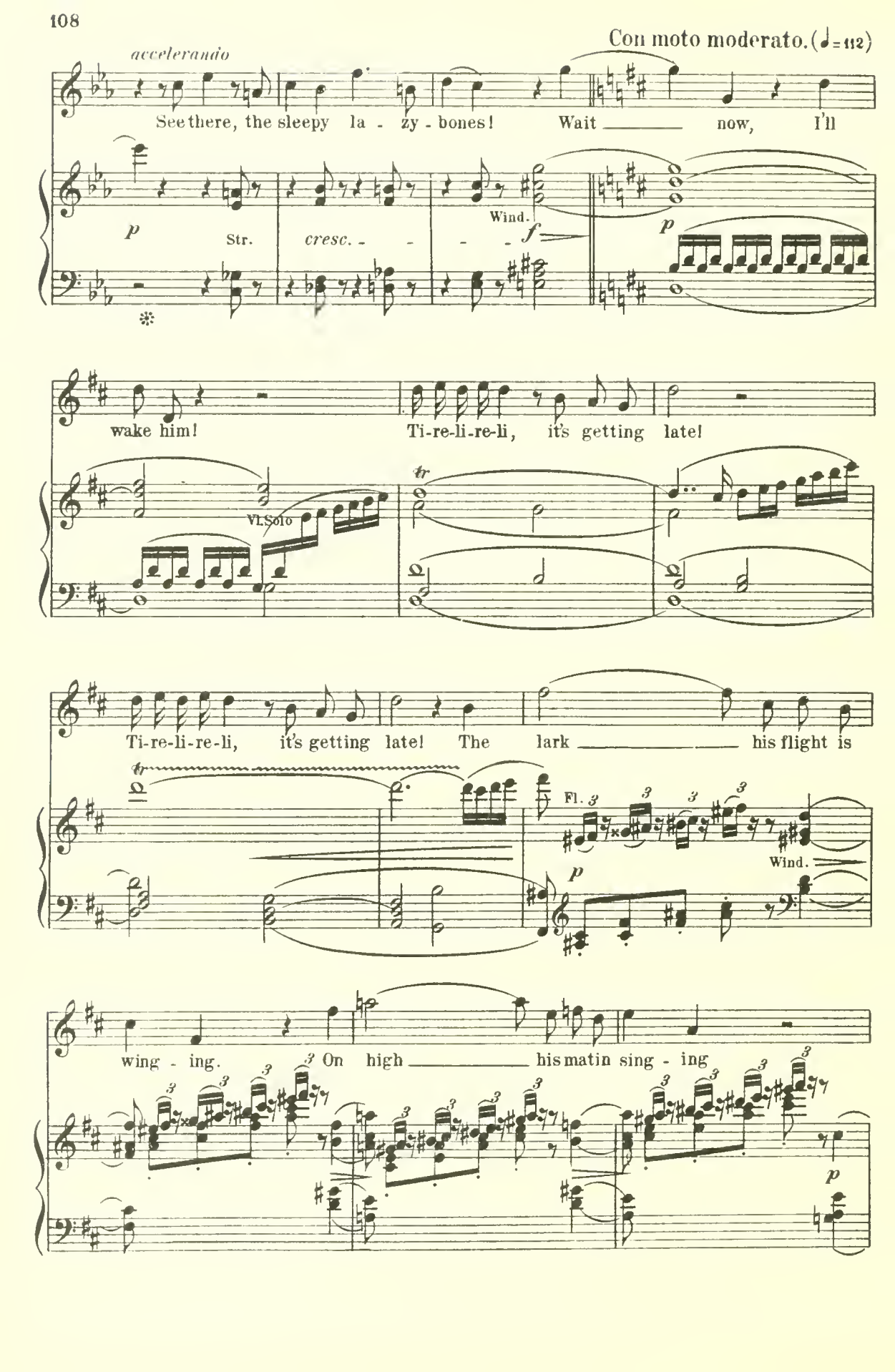
sing - ers, Good morn - ing!

(turns to Hänsel.)

Vl.

cresc. - - - - - - - - - f

Ped.


Con moto moderato. (♩=112)
accelerando
See there, the sleepy la - zy - bones! Wait now, I'll
p
Str.
cresc.
Wind.
f
p
wake him! Ti-re-li-re-li, it's getting late!
Vl. Solo
tr
Ti-re-li-re-li, it's getting late! The lark his flight is
tr
Fl.
Wind.
p
wing - ing. On high his matin sing - ing
p

Ti-re-li-re-li, ti-re-li-re-li, ti-re-li-re-li, ti-re-li-re-li,

cresc.

p

ti - ti - ti - ti-re-li-ti, ti-re-li-ti, ti-re-li, ti-re-li-relire-

mf

li, ti-re-li-re-li-re - li-ti - - ti - - ti - - ti -

p *cresc.*

- ti - ti - - - - ti!

Hänsel (suddenly jumps up with a start.)

Ki - ke-ri - ki! it's ear-ly yet! Ki - ke-ri -

Vl. Fl.

f *p*

ki! it's ear - ly yet! Yes, the day is

Vl. Fl. Cl. Vcl.

f *p* *p*

dawn - ing, A - - wake, for it is

Fl. Hb. Vcl. Ten.

Gretel.

Ti - ti - ti - - ti - ti - re - li - re - li - re - li,

morn - ing! Ki - ke - ri - ki! E - e - e - e -

Fl. Hb. Vcl. Ten.

p

ti - re - li - re - li - re - li, ti ti - re - li - re - li - re - li - ti, ti!

e! Ki - ke - ri - ki! E - e - e - e -

Fl.

cresc.

tr

e! Ki - ke-ri - ki!

Fl. Vl. f dimin.

Ped. Dr. Ped.

Hänsel.

I feel so well,

Cl. p Bass. Ten. Vcl.

Gretel.

But

I know not why! I nev-er slept so well, no not I!

Hr. Fl.

listen, Hans, here 'neath the tree A wondrous dream was sent to

Fl. pp Harp. Str. Hr.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

Hänsel (meditatively.)

me! Real - ly! I too had a

pp

Tromb.

Vcl.

Ped.

Gretel.

dream! I fan - cied I heard a

Vl.

pp

murm' - ring and rush - ing, As though the

Bass.

an - gels in Heav'n were sing - ing. Ro - sy

Fl.

Cor. ingl.

p

clouds a - bove me were float - ing. Ho - vering and

cresc. - -

float - ing in the dis - tance a - way.

Str. Cl. Vcl. Ped.

Sud-den - all a - round a light was streaming, Rays of glo - ry from

Vl. *dolce* Hb. Vl. Ped.

Hea - ven beam - ing, And a gol - den lad - der

Vl. Cl. Ped.

saw I des-cend - ing, An - - gels a - down it glid - ing,

Vl. Hb. Fl. Vl. *mf* Ped.

Such love - ly an - gels with shi - - ning gol - den wings.

f *dim.* *p* Ped.

Gretel (astonished)

And did you al-so be-hold all this?

Hänsel (interrupting her quickly)

Fourteen angels there must have been!

Hb.

Harp. Ten.

Un poco ritardando.

Hänsel.

Truly, 'twas wondrous fair! And upward I saw them

Cl.

ritard. *dolce*

Hr. *espr.* *dimin.*

Scene II.

(He turns towards the background: at this moment the last remains of the mist clear away. In place of the fir-trees is seen the Witch's House at the Ilsenstein, shining in the rays of the rising sun. A little distance off, to the left, is an oven; opposite this, on the right, a large cage, both joined to the witch's house by a fence of gingerbread figures.)

Animato. (♩= 60)

Gretel (holds Hänsel back in astonishment)

float. Stand still! Be still!

p

Vcl.

Hänsel (surprised)

O Hea - ven, what won - drous place is

Ten.

p *cresc.*

(in the greatest excitement)

this, As ne'er in all my

Vl. Wind. Wind.

p f f cresc. f

life have I seen!

(Both gaze at the house spellbound)

Wind. ff f

Trp. Hr. dim. p Vl. più p poco rit.

Un poco più tranquillo.

Harp. dolce Hr. Str. mf con molto espressione

Gretel (gradually regains her self-possession)

What o - dour de-li-cious, O

p

say, do I dream? A cot - tage all made of

Hänsel.

A

Hb.

p dolce

Ped.

cho - co - late cream. The roof is all cov - er'd with Turkish de-light, The

cot - - tage all made of Turk-ish de -

Fl.

tr

Vl.

win-dows with lus - tre of su-gar are white, And on all the ga - bles the

light, The win - dows with su-gar are white, On ga - bles the

fp

Hb.

Vl.

fp

rai - sins in - vite, And think! all a - round is a

rai - sins in-vite, And think! all a - round is a

mf

gin - ger - bread hedge!

gin - ger - bread hedge!

cresc.

O ma - - - - gic

O ma - - - - gic

Wind.

f Hr.

p

cas - - - tle, how nice you'd be to eat! Where

cas - - - tle, how nice you'd be to eat! Where

p

Hb.

Vl.

hides the prin - cess who en - joys so great a

hides the prin - cess who en - joys so great a

p

treat? Ah could she but vi - - - sit our

treat? Ah could she but vi - - - sit our

mf

lit - - tle cot - tage bare, She'd ask us to

lit - - tle cot - tage bare, She'd ask us to

vl.

cresc.

f

Ped. * Ped. *

din - ner her dain - - - ties to share, She'd

din - ner her dain-ties to share, I'm sure she'd

tr *tr*

dimin.

p

ask us to din - - - ner, us both

ask us to din - - - ner, us both

tr *tr*

cresc.

f

dimin.

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

to din - ner there, to din - ner

to din - ner there, to din - ner

tr

Hb.

p

Ped. ✻

there, to din - ner there!

there, to din - ner there!

VI.

p

Ped.

dimin.

più p

✻

Hänsel.

(resolutely)

No sound I hear, No, nothing is stirring! Come, let's go in-

Harp.

p

Harp.

f

Gretel (pulling him back horrified.)

Are you quite senseless? Hänsel, howe'er can you side it!

Str. Hb. Cl.

make so bold? Who knows who may live there, in that lovely house?

poco rit.

Vl. Hb. dimin. poco rit.

Hänsel.

a tempo

look, do look, how the house seems to smile!

a tempo

Hr. Bass. Fl. Bass.

(enthusiastically)

Ah! the an - gels did our foot - steps be -

Trp.

Ped. * Ped.

Gretel (reflectively.)

The an - gels? Yes, it must be

guile!

Fl.

dolce *pp*

so!

Hänsel.

Yes, Gre - tel, the an - - gels are beck' - - ning us

Hr.

Hb.

p

Bass.

Hänsel.

in!

Fl.

p

cresc.

espressivo

Più animato.

Gretel.

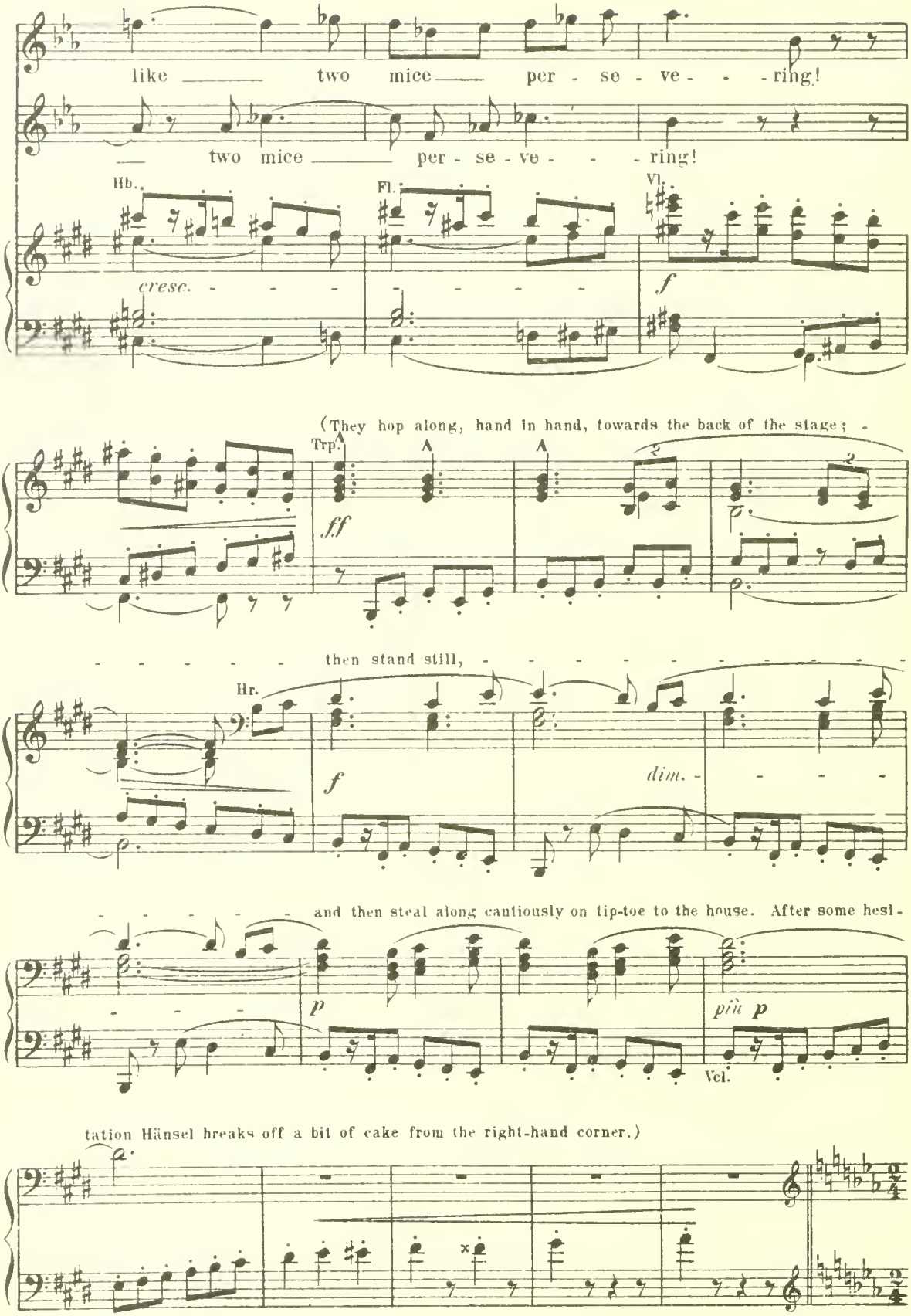
Yes, let's nibble it, yes, let's nibble it

Come, let's nibble a bit of the cot-tage! Come, let's nib-ble it like

Più animato.

Vl.

fp


like two mice per - se - ve - - - ring!
two mice per - se - ve - - - ring!
Hb.
Fl.
Vl.
cresc.
f
(They hop along, hand in hand, towards the back of the stage; -
Trp.
ff
then stand still, - - - - - - - - - - - -
Hr.
f
dim.
and then steal along cautiously on tip-toe to the house. After some hesi-
p
più p
Vcl.
tation Hänsel breaks off a bit of cake from the right-hand corner.)

Scene III.

L'istesso tempo. (♩= ♩.)

A voice from the house.

Nib-ble, nib-ble, mouse-kin, who's nib-bling at my house-kin?

Harp. Wind. *mf* *sf* *dimin.*

Hänsel (starts, and in his fright lets the piece of cake fall.)

O, did you hear?

p *pp*

Gretel (somewhat timidly.)

The wind, the hea - - venly wind!

(ditto.)

The wind, the hea - - venly wind!

Str. Wind. Str. Hb. Bass. *pp*

Gretel (picks up the piece of cake and tastes it.)

H'm!

Hänsel (looking longingly at Gretel.)

D'you like it?

Cl. Hb. Vcl. *pp* *p*

Gretel (lets Hänsel bite it.)

Just taste and try it!

Vl.

p

cresc.

Gretel (ditto.)

Hänsel (lays his hand on his breast in rapture.)

Hi! Hi! Hi! Hi!

fp fp

Hi! Hi! O

Hi! Hi! O

p cresc. f

cake most de - li - cious, Some more I must take! It's real - ly like Hea - ven To

p

cake most de - li - cious, Some more I must take! It's real - ly like Hea - ven To

Hb. Vl.

p Bass. p

eat ___ such plum-cake! ___ It's most de-

eat ___ such plum-cake! ___ Ah, O how good,

Vl.

fp *fp* *cresc.*

licious! How tas - ty! How sweet!

How sweet, Ah, how

Cl. Hb.

p.

It's p'raps the house of a sweet - y-maker!

(calls out.)

tas-ty! Hi! sweet-y-maker!

cresc. *f*

Have a care! A

f

(He breaks a big piece of cake off the wall.)

lit - tle mouse your sweet - ies would share!

f Fl. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Gretel.

The voice from the house. Hänsel. The

Nibble, nibble, mouse-kin, who's nibbling at my housekin? The

Wind. *fp* Hr. *dimin.* *p*

wind, the wind, the hea - - venly wind!

wind, the wind, the hea - - venly wind!

Vl. Fl Cl. Wind. Str. Vcl.

(The upper part of the house-door opens gently, and the Witch's head is seen at it. The children at first do not see her, and go on feasting merrily. Then she opens the whole door, steals warily up

Gretel.

Wait, you gob - bling mousekin, Here comes the cat from the house - kin!

Cr. ingl.

p espressivo

Bass.

to the children, and throws a rope round the neck of Hänsel, who, without any misgivings, turns

Hänsel (taking another bite.)

Eat what you please, and leave me in peace!

Hb.

p

cresc.

his back to her.)

Poco a poco stringendo.

Gretel (snatches the piece from his hand.)

Hänsel (takes it back from her.)

Don't be un-kind, Sir wind, Sir wind.

Heaven-ly wind, I

cresc.

Gretel (laughing.)

Ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha ha

take what I find!

(laughing.)

Ha ha ha ha ha

p

Str.

Allegro non assai.

ha!

Hänsel (horror-struck.)

ha! Let go! Who are you?

The Witch (laughing shrilly.)

He he, he he, he he he he he he!

Wind.

Allegro non assai.

fp *cresc.* *fp*

Hänsel.

Let me go!

The Witch (drawing the children towards her.)

An - gels both! (And goo - sey-

Wind.

fp *fp* *fp* *f*

gan - ders!)

Poco ritenuto.

(She caresses the children.)

You've come to

Wind.

fp *f* *p espressivo*

vi - sit me, that is sweet! You charm - ing

Più animato.

Hänsel (makes despairing efforts

chil - dren, so nice to eat! Who are you,

Hr.

fp

Tempo come prima.

to free himself.)

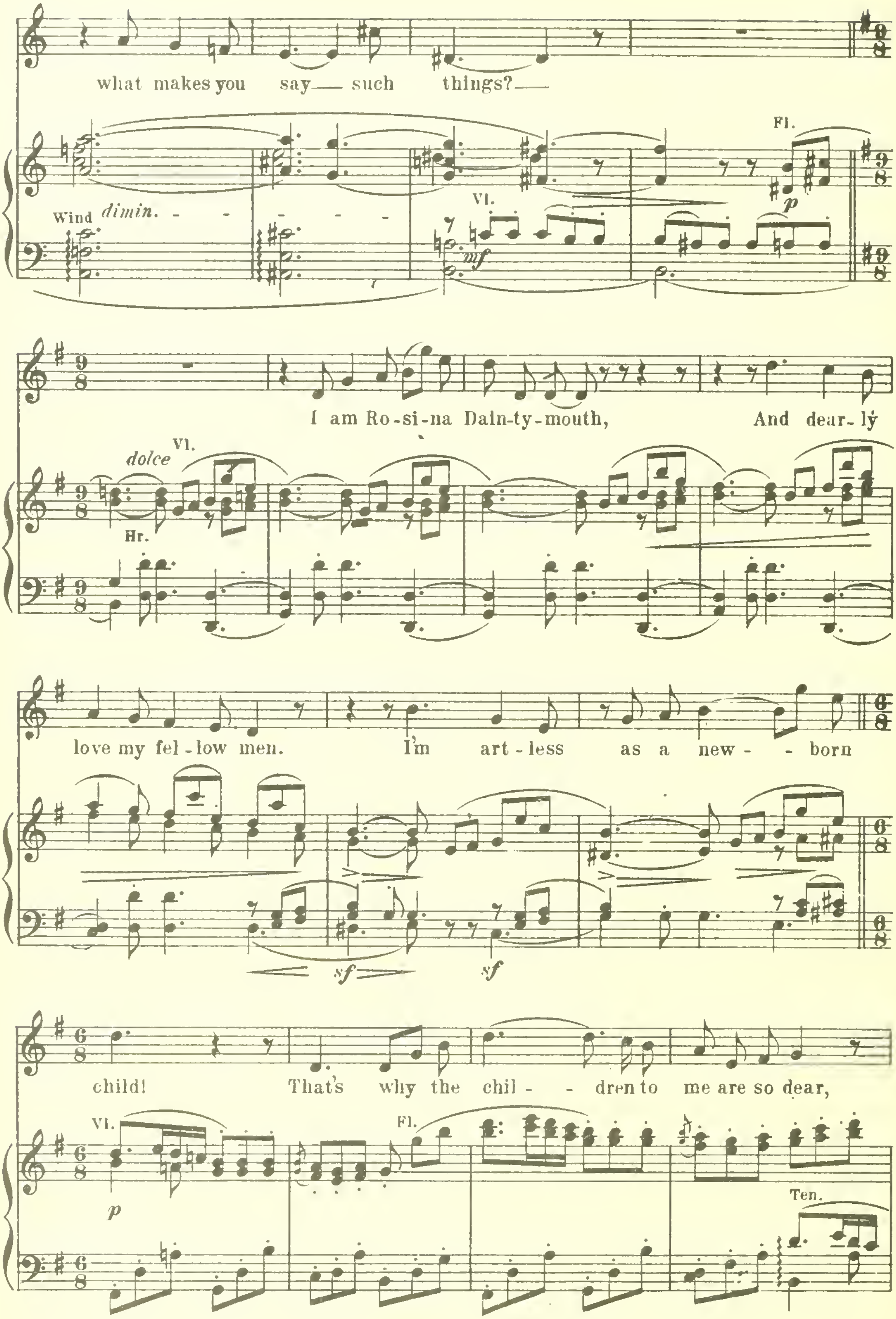
The Witch.

ug - ly one? Let me go! Now,

f *ff* vl. *p*

dar - ling, don't you give yourself airs! Dear heart

cresc. - - - - *f*


what makes you say— such things?—
Wind dimin.
Vl.
mf
Fl.
p
I am Ro-si-na Dain-ty-mouth, And dear-ly
dolce
Vl.
Hr.
love my fel-low men. I'm art-less as a new- -born
sf
sf
child! That's why the chil- -dren to me are so dear,
Vl.
p
Fl.
Ten.

so dear, so dear, ah,

cresc.

(caresses Hänsel)

so che - arm - - - - - - - - - ing to

dimin. Vl. *p* *cresc.* Bass. *f*

Più animato.

Hänsel (turning roughly away.) (stamping with his foot)

eat! Go, get you gone out of my sight! I hate, I

Vl. Fl. *f* *f* Ped.

The Witch. (laughing shrilly.)

loathe you quite! Ha ha, ha ha, ha ha ha ha ha ha!

Wind. *f* *ff*

Allegro non troppo.

These dain-ty mor-sels I'm real-ly gloating on, And you, my

Vl.

fp Wind. *fp* *cresc.* *fp*

Un poco più tranquillo.

lit - - tle maid - en, I'm dot-ing on!

fp Cl. *p dolce* Ten. Bcl.

Come, lit-tle mou - sey, Come in-to my hou - sey!

Hb. Fl. Cl.

Come with me, my pre-cious, I'll give you sweetmeats de - li - cious!

(dolce)

Of chocola-te, tarts, and marzipan You shall both eat all you can,

dolce

Str. Cl.

p

And wed-ding cake and straw-ber-ry ices, Blancmange and ev`-ry-thing

Hb.

p

Vcl.

Fl.

else that nice is, And rai-sins and al - monds, and peach-es and citrons are

Cl.

p

Vcl.

wait - ing, You'll both ___ find it quite cap-ti - và - - - - ting,

Hb.

cresc. - - -

Vl.

p espressivo

Hänsel.

I wont come

W

yes, quite cap-ti-va - - - ting!

p *tr* *mf* *dim.* *f*

Gretel.

You are quite too friend-ly!

The Witch.

H

with you, hid-eous fright!

See, see!

Hb. Bass. *mf* Fl. Cl. *f* *dim.* *p* Ten. (pizz.)

See, how sly!

Dear chil-dren, you real-ly may

(*p*) Fl. *p* Vcl. Ten.

trust me in this,

And living with me will be per-fect

Hb. *cresc.* *p*

bliss! Come, lit - tle mon-sey, Come in - to my hou - sey!

Cl.

p dolce

Gretel. *f*

But say, what will you

Come with me, my precious, I'll give you sweetmeats de - li - cious!

Vcl.

Gretel. The Witch.

with my bro-ther do? Well, well — I'll feed and fat-ten him up well,

Ten. *p*

Hb.

espressivo

Fl. *mf*

p

Hr.
Bass.

Cl.

With ev' - ry sort of dainty de - li-cious, To make him tender and

Cr. ingl.

tas-ty. And if he's brave and patient too, And do-cile and o-

Fl. Ten. Hb. Hr. Cl.

be-dient like a sheep, Then, Hän-sel, I'll whisper it

Cr.ingl. *cresc.* Fl. Hb. *dolcissimo* *pp* Hr.

you, I have a great treat in store

p *cresc.* Cr.ingl. *cresc.* Vl. Cl. *p* Hr. *cresc.*

Hänsel.

Then speak out loud, and whis-per

tr. for you!

f *ff* Hr. *f*

not. The Witch. What is the great treat in store for me?

What?

dimin. Cl. *p* Hb. Str. *mf*

The Witch.

Yes, my dear children, hearing and sight

p Vcl. Fl. *p* Hr.

Hänsel.

In this great pleasure will dis-appear quite! Eh? both my hearing and see-ing are good! You'd

Cl. *p* Bcl. Vcl. Hb. *p dolce* Hr.

(resolutely)

bet-ter take care you do me no harm! Gre-tel, trust not her flat-ter-ing words,

cresc. Vl. *f*

(He has in the meantime got out of the rope, and runs with Gretel to the foreground.)

Come, sis-ter come, let's run a - way!

Hb. Cl. Vl. Ten. Vcl.

f *cresc.* *f*

(Here they are stopped by the Witch, who imperiously raises against them both a stick which hangs at her girdle, with repeated gestures of spell-binding.)

The Witch.

Hold!

(♩=♩.)

f *p*

Trb.

(the stage becomes gradually darker.)

Ho-cus po-cus, witches' charm! Move not, as you

fp *p* *f* *p*

Trb.

fear my arm! Back or forward do not try,

fp *p* *f*

Fixed you are by the e-vil eye!

p *fp*

(Here the knob of her stick begins to glow with light.)

Head on shoul-ders fixed aw-ry!

Poco a poco più animato.

fp *p* Hb. Cr. ingl. Cl.

Ho-cus po-cus, now comes jo-cus: Children, watch the ma-gic

Vl. Hb.

Più tranquillo.

(Fresh gestures: then she leads

head, Eyes are star-ing, dull as lead! Now, you a-tom, off to bed!

cresc. *fp*

Hänsel, who is gazing fixedly at the illuminated head, into the stable, and shuts the lattice door upon him.)

Ho-cus po-cus, bo-nus jo-cus, ma-lus lo-cus, ho-cus po-cus! Bo-nus

Str. *p* *dimin.* Hb. *espressivo* Cr. ingl. Cl.

(The stage gradually becomes lighter, whilst

jo-cus, ma-lus lo-cus! Ho-cus po-cus, bo-nus

Fl. Bass. Bcl. Cl. Bass. Dble B. Dble B. Dr. *p*

the light of the magic head diminishes.)

jo-cus, ma-lus lo-cus, ho-cus, po-cus!

dimin. Dr. *pp*

Molto tranquillo.

The Witch (contentedly to Gretel, who still stands there motionless.)

Now Gre-tel, be o-be-dient and wise, While

Cr. ingl. *p* Hr.

Hän - sel's growing fat and nice. We'll feed him up, you'll see my

Hb. Cr. ingl.

rea - son, And with sweet al - monds and with rai-sins sea - son. I'll go in -

p Cl. *p* Bass Hr.

doors, the things to pre - pare, And you remain here where you

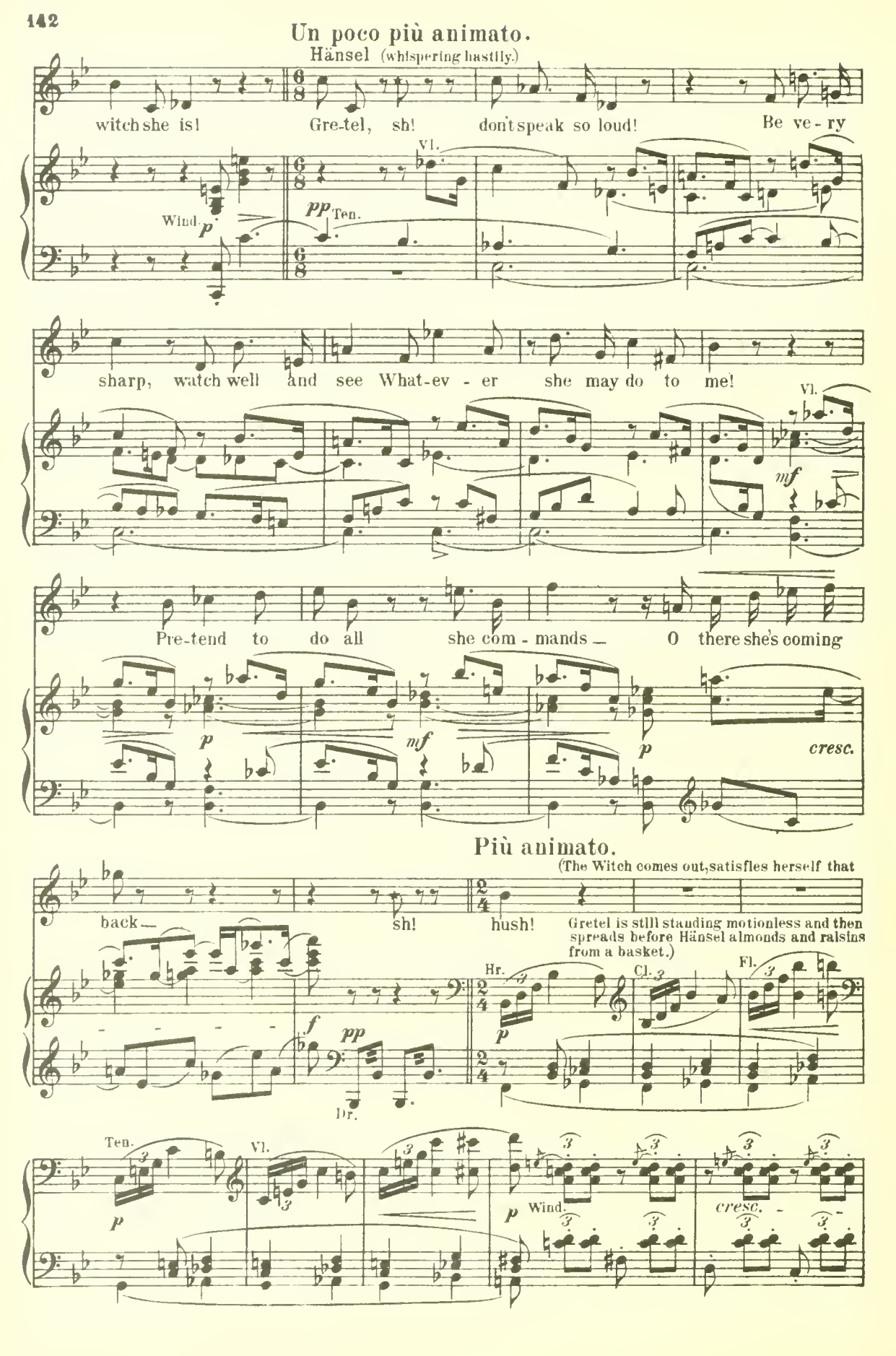
sf *p* Hr. *pp*

(She grins as she holds up her finger warningly, and goes into the house.)

Gretel (stiff and motionless.)

are! O, what a horrid

Vl. *pp* Teh. Dr. Cl. Vl. *fp*


Un poco più animato.
Hänsel (whispering hastily.)
witch she is! Gre-tel, sh! don't speak so loud! Be ve-ry
Wind.
p
pp
Ten.
Vl.
sharp, watch well and see What-ev - er she may do to me!
mf
Pre-tend to do all she com - mands — O there she's coming
p
mf
p
cresc.
Più animato.
(The Witch comes out, satisfies herself that
back — sh! hush! Gretel is still standing motionless and then spreads before Hänsel almonds and raisins from a basket.)
f
pp
Dr.
Hr.
Cl.
Fl.
Ten.
Vl.
Wind.
cresc.

Allegro.

Vl.

p Wind.

The Witch.

Now, lit - tle man, come pri - - thee en -

Vcl.

p

Molto ritenuto.

(Sticking a raisin into Hänsel's mouth.)

joy yourself! Eat, min-ion,

m.s.

Fl. Vl.

p

Più animato.

eat or die! Here are cakes, O so nice!

Cl. Vl. Hr. Trb. Dble B.

p creso.

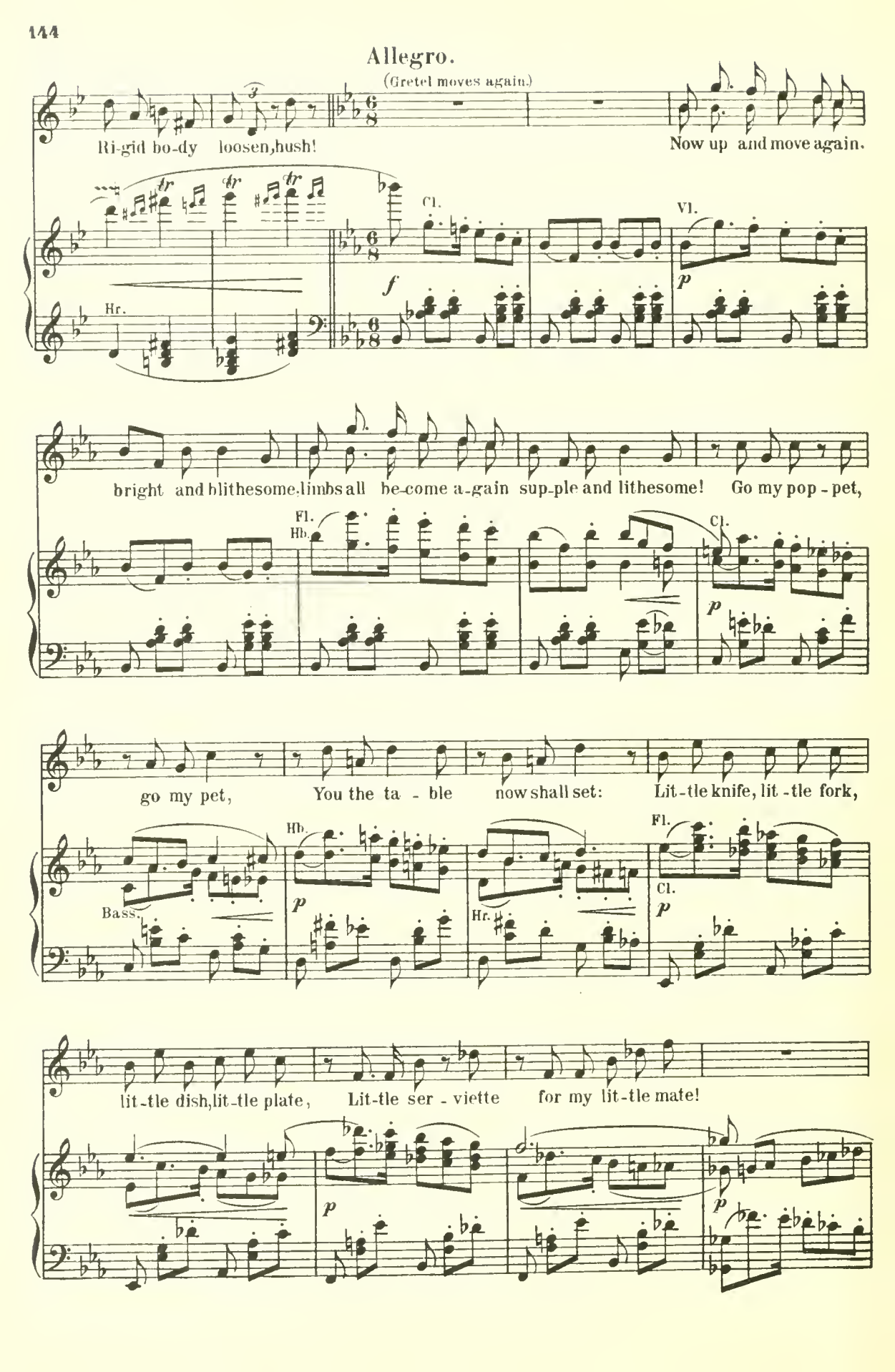
(She turns to Gretel and disenchants her with a juniper branch.)

(♩=♩.) Hocus pocus, elder-bush!

tr tr

Vl. Ten. Fl. Hb. Hr. (con sordino)

fp mf p mf


Allegro.
(Gretel moves again.)
Ri-gid bo-dy loosen, hush!
Now up and move again.
Hr.
Cl.
Vl.
bright and blithesome limbs all be-come a-gain sup-ple and lithesome! Go my pop-pet,
Fl.
Hb.
Cl.
go my pet, You the ta-ble now shall set: Lit-tle knife, lit-tle fork,
Bass.
Hb.
Hr.
Fl.
Cl.
lit-tle dish, lit-tle plate, Lit-tle ser-viette for my lit-tle mate!

Now get ev'- ry-thing rea-dy and nice, Or else — I shall

cresc. - - - *f* Str.

(She threatens and titters. Gretel hurries off.)

lock you up too in a trice! He he he he he he!

f *dimin.* - *p*

Molto più lento.

(To Hänsel who pretends to be asleep.)

The fool is slumb'-ring, it does seem

Cr. ingl. Vcl.

p *espressivo*

Bass.

queer How youth can sleep and have — no fear! Well, sleep a -

way, you sim - ple sheep, Soon you will sleep your

last long sleep!

Cl.

Hr. Bcl.

p

But first with Gre - tel I'll be - gin, Off

Hb.

p

Vcl.

you, dear maid-en, I will dine; You're so ten - der, plump and

Vl.

Hb.

Fl.

ritard.

p

dolce

cresc.

Allegro.

good, — Just the thing for witch-es' food!

(She opens the oven door and sniffs in it, her face lighted up by the deep red glare of the fire.)

Hb. Fl. Cl. Dr. Hb.

ff *f* *p*

cresc.

Wind. *poco ritenuto*

ff *dimin.*

The dough has risen, so we'll go on pre-par - ing.

Ten.

p *f* *f*

Hark, how the sticks in the fire are crackling!

Wind. Str.

f *f* *p* *fp*

(She pushes a couple more faggots under; the fire flames up and then dies down again.)

p *fp* *p* *fp*

f *dimin.*

The Witch (rubbing her hands with glee.)

Yes, Gre-tel mine, how well off you I'll dine!

Hb. Cl. Vl. Ten. Vcl. Dr.

p *espressivo*

See, see, O how sly!

Fl.

When in the ov-en she's peep-ing, quick-ly be-hind her I'm creeping! One lit-tle push, bang

poco riten.

Hb. Cl. Str. Wind.

p *poco riten.* (pizz.) *f*

Bass.

Goes the door, clang! Then soon will Gre-tel be

Cl. Vl. Bass.

just done to a T! And when from the ov-en I take her she'll

Fl. Vl. Fl. Hr.

look like a cake from the bak-er! By ma-gic fire red chang'd in-to gin-ger-bread!

Hb.

See, see how sly! He he, he he,

Vl. cresc.

he he, he he, he he he he he he!

più cresc.

L'istesso tempo. (♪= ♪)

(In her wild delight she seizes a broomstick and begins to ride upon it.)

f

So hop, hop, hop, gal-lop, lop, lop! My broom-stick nag, come do not lag!

Cl.

mf

f

(She rides excitedly round on the broomstick.)

At dawn of day I ride a-way, Am

Cl.

mf

(She rides again; Gretel meanwhile is watching at the window.)

here and there and ev'-ry-where!

Fl.
Hb.

f

At mid-night hour, when none can know, to join the witch-es' dance I go!

fp Str.

cresc.

f

And three and four Are witch - es' lore, And

Cl.

p

five and six Are witch - es' tricks, And nine is one, And

Hb.

ten is none, And seven is nil, Or what she will!

cresc.

And thus they ride till dawn of day!

mf

p cresc.

(Hopping madly along she rides to the back of the stage, and vanishes for a time behind the cottage.)

ff

Vl.

p

Wind.

Vl.

mf

fp

Trb.

mf

Dble B.

fp

mf

fp

cresc.

f

(Here the Witch be-

comes visible again; she comes to the foreground,

ff

where she suddenly pulls up

and dismounts.)

Prr!

broomstick, hi!

ff

Trp.
Hr.

f

ff

ff

(She hobbles back to the stable and tickles Hänsel with a birch-twig till he awakes.)

The Witch.

f *p*

Up, awake, my mankin young; Come show to

L'istesso tempo.

Trp. *f* *f*

(Hänsel puts his tongue out.) (Smacks with her tongue.)

me your tongue! Dainty morsel!

Fl. Hb. *mf* *p dolce* *p*

(ditto again) (♩. = ♩)

Dainty mor-sel!

Fl. Hb. Cl. *p*

Lit - tle tooth - some man - kin come, Now let me see your thumb!

Vl. Ten. *cresc.* Fl. *f*

(Hänsel pokes out a small bone.)

Ge - - mi - ni! O -

Vl.

Hb.

Bass.

p Str.

ho! O how scraggy, how lean!

p

p

Ur - chin, you're a scraggy one, As bad

p Str.

cresc.

as a ske-le-ton!

Str.

p

mf

1

f

Hr.

(plzz.)

The Witch (calls)

(Gretel appears at the door.)

Mai-den! Gre-tel!

Hb.

p

Fl.

p

Cl.

p

Cr. Ingl.

Bass.

The Witch.

Bring some raisins and almonds sweet, Hänsel wants some more to

Fl.

cresc.

(Gretel runs into the house, and returns immediately with a basket full of almonds and

eat! —

Vl.

p

Hr.

p

cresc.

raisins.)

Gretel.

(Whilst the Witch is

Here are the almonds!

f.

dimin.

Hb.

p

Bass.

Vcl.

feeding Hänsel, Gretel gets behind her and makes the gestures of disenchantment with the juniper-branch.)

Gretel (softly).

Ho-cus pocus, el-der-bush,

p

Ten.

Vl.

dim.

Vl.

Fl.

pp

(pizz.)

Hb.

pp

The Witch (turning suddenly round.)

Ri-gid bo-dy loosen, hush! What were you saying, little goose?

mf

Vl.

pp

Cl.

Gretel (confusedly.)

On - ly — much good may it do to Hans!

The Witch. Eh?

Gretel (louder.) Much good may it do to Hans!

Fl.

p espressivo

Hb.

cresc.

Ped. *

The Witch.

He he he! my little Miss, I'll stop your mouth with this!

(sticks a raisin into Gretel's mouth.)

Fl.

Hb.

Fl.

dimin. *p* Ten.

Eat, mi - nion, eat or die, Here are cakes, O so

Hb.

Cl.

Hb.

Cl.

Hr.

p *espressivo*

(She opens the oven door; the heat has apparently diminished. Meanwhile Hänsel makes violent signs to Gretel.)

nice!

p

Ped. *

Hänsel (softly opening the stable door)

The Witch (looking greedily at Gretel.)

Sis - ter, dear, — O be-ware! — She makes my mouth wa-ter,

Bass. Fl. Cl. Wind

Cl. Bcl. Bass.

This pretty little daughter! Come, Gretel mine! sugar-maiden mine!

Cr. ingl. Fl.

Bass. Hr.

(Gretel comes towards her.)

Peep in the oven, be steady, See if the gingerbread's ready!

Vl. Fl. Vl.

Str. Ten. Bass.

Care-ful - ly look, pet, Whe-ther it's cooked yet, But if it wants more

Cr. ingl. Vl.

(Gretel hesitates.)

Shut quick the door!

Fl. Cl. Vl. Fl. Bass.

Hänsel (slipping out of the stable)

Sis - ter dear, —

Hb. Fl. Bass.

Gretel (making herself out very awkward)

Have a care! — I don't un-derstand what I have to do!

Vl. *espressivo*

The Witch.

Just stand on tip - toe, Head bending for - ward, Try it, I pray, It's merely play!

Hb. Hr. Fl. Vl. Vcl.

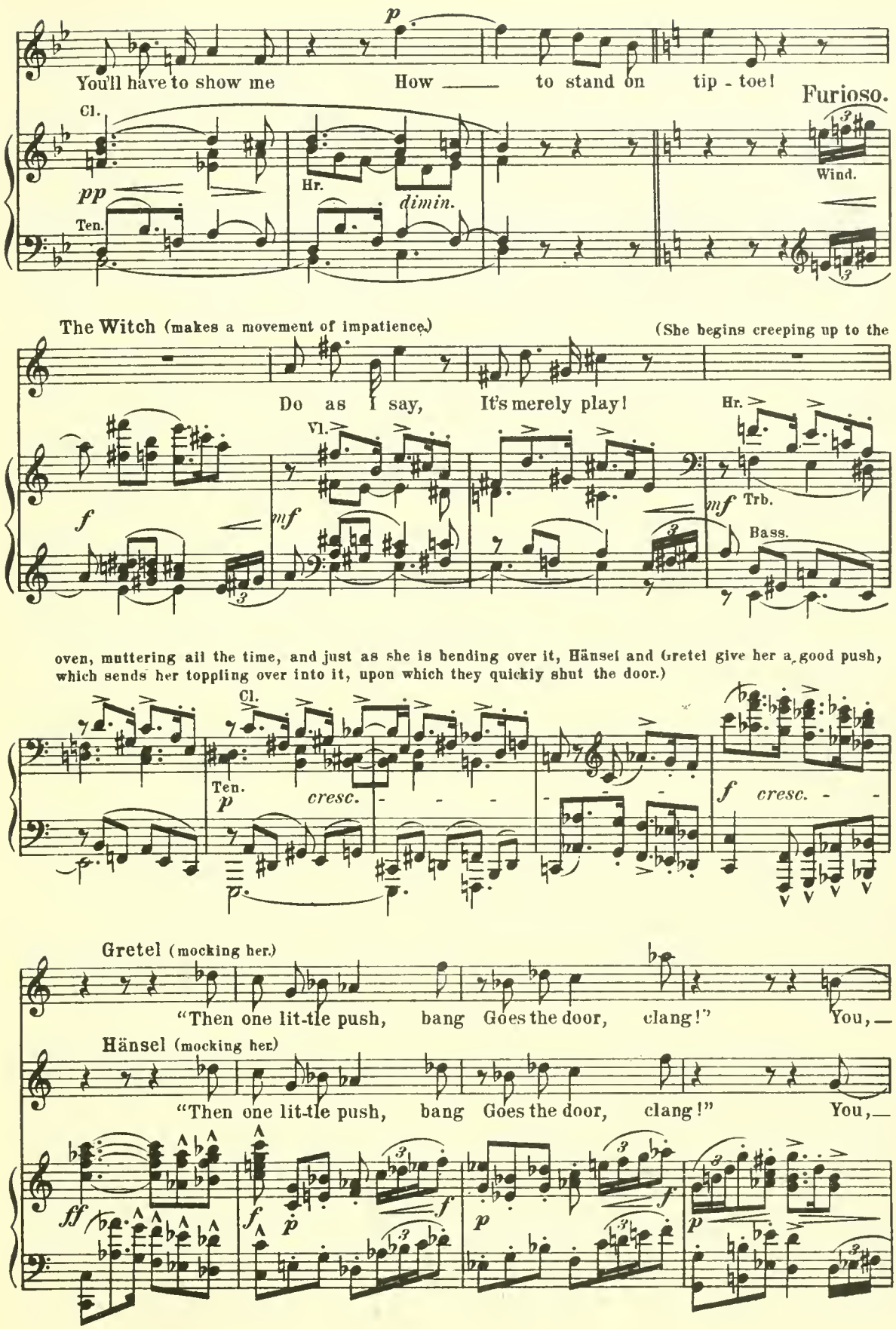
Hänsel (pulling Gretel back by her frock.)

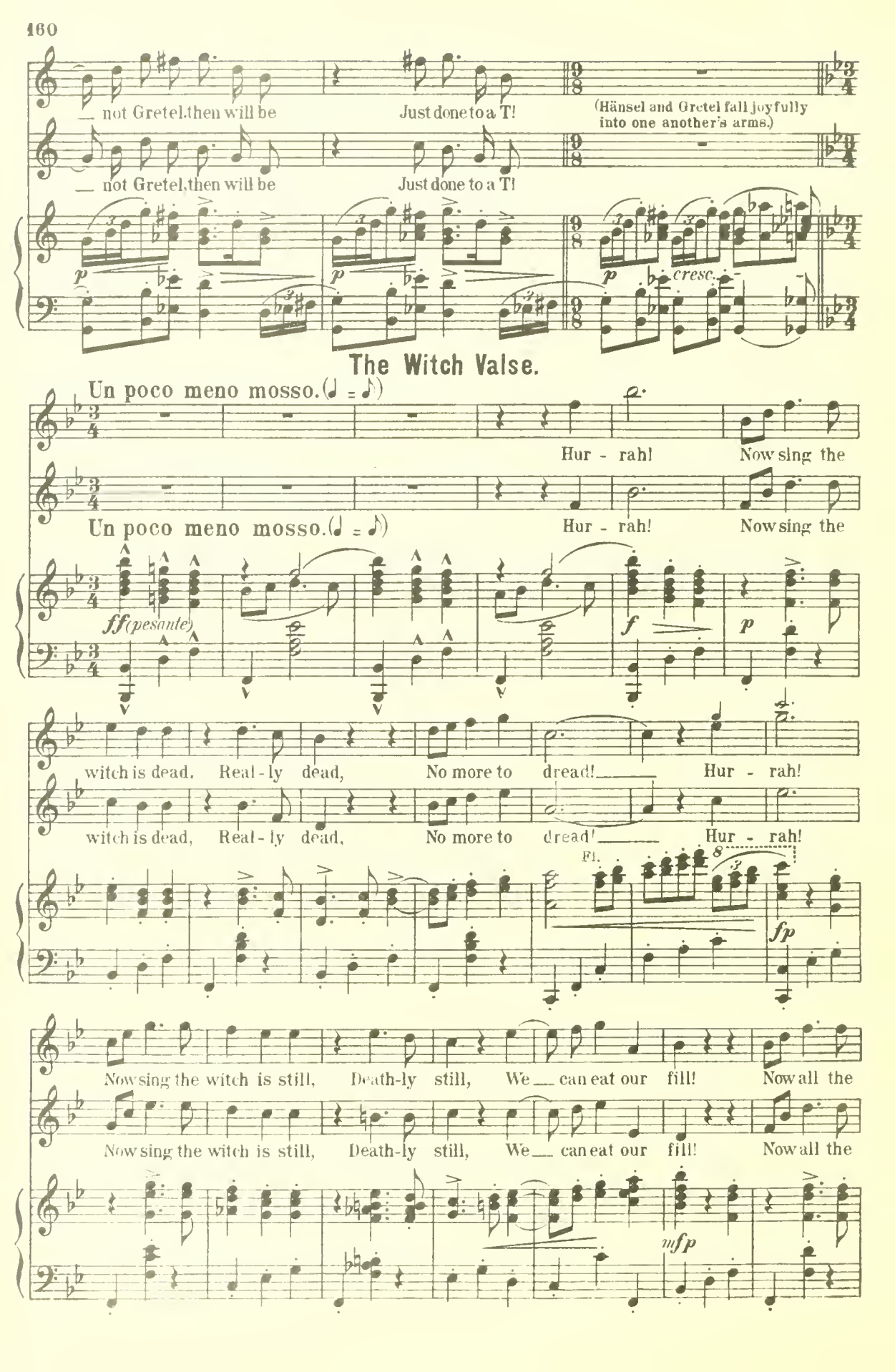
Sis - ter dear, Now take care!

Gretel (shyly.)

I'm such a goose, don't un-derstand!

Hr. Bass. Hr. Ten.


You'll have to show me How to stand on tip - toe!
Furioso.
Cl.
Hr.
dimin.
Wind.
Ten.
The Witch (makes a movement of impatience.)
(She begins creeping up to the
Do as I say, It's merely play!
Vl.
Hr.
Trb.
Bass.
oven, muttering all the time, and just as she is bending over it, Hänsel and Gretel give her a good push, which sends her toppling over into it, upon which they quickly shut the door.)
Cl.
Ten.
cresc.
Gretel (mocking her.)
"Then one lit-tle push, bang Goes the door, clang!" You,
Hänsel (mocking her.)
"Then one lit-tle push, bang Goes the door, clang!" You,


not Gretel, then will be
Just done to a T!
(Hänsel and Gretel fall joyfully into one another's arms.)
p
cresc.
The Witch Valse.
Un poco meno mosso. (♩ = ♪)
Hur - rah! Now sing the
ff (pesante)
f
witch is dead, Real - ly dead, No more to dread! Hur - rah!
Fl.
fp
Now sing the witch is still, Death-ly still, We can eat our fill! Now all the
mfp

a tempo

(They seize each

spell is o'er, Real - ly o'er, We fear no more! Yes let us

spell is o'er, Real - ly o'er, We fear no more! Yes let us

a tempo

mf *p* *mf*

other's hands.)

hap-py be, Dancing so mer - ri-ly; Now the old witch is gone. We'll have no end of fun!

hap-py be, Dancing so mer - ri-ly; Now the old witch is gone. We'll have no end of fun!

Hey! hur - rah, hur - rah! Hip hur - rah! Hip hur-

Hey! hur - rah. hur - rah! Hip hur - rah! Hip hur-

cresc.

f

(They take each other round the waist and waltz

rah! Hur - rah!

rah! Hur - rah!

ff

together, first in the front of the stage, and then gradually in the direction of the Witch's house.)

ff

Hb.

Cr. ingl.

fp espressiro

Vcl.

Vl.

(When they get there Hänsel breaks loose from Gretel and rushes into the house, shutting the door after

Vcl.

dolce

Dr.

him. Then from the upper window he throws down apples, pears, oranges, gilded nuts, and all kinds of

Vl.

dolce

sweetmeats into Gretel's outstretched apron.)

Ten. Hb. p

Vl. p

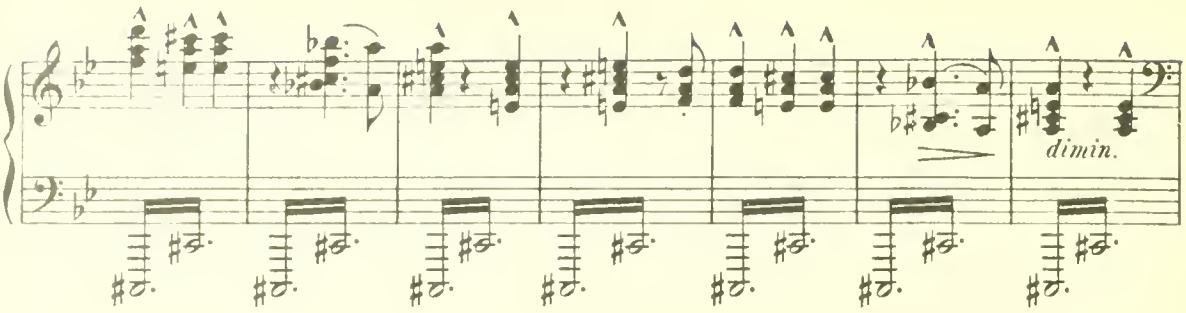
cresc.

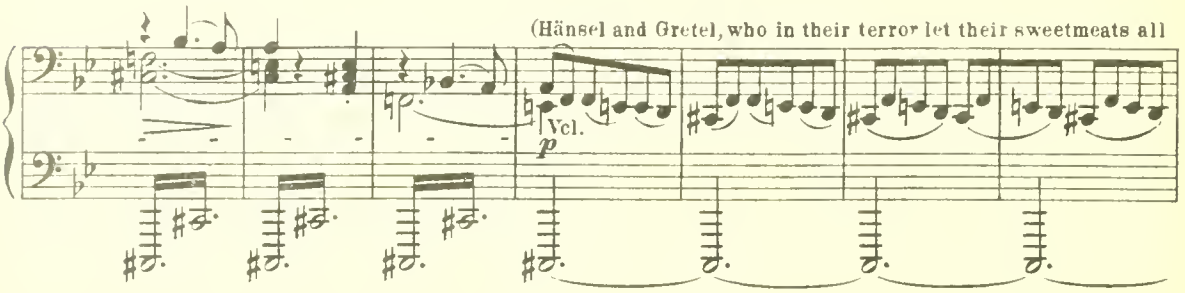
(Meanwhile the oven begins crackling loudly, and the flames burn high. Then there is a loud crash, and

Vl. f cresc.

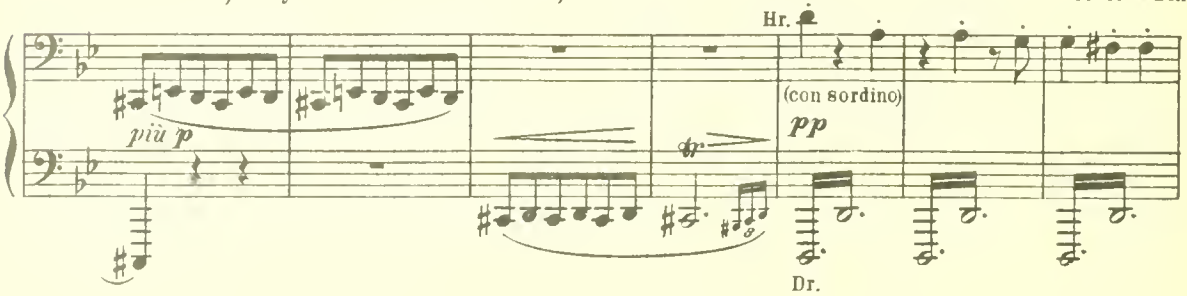
the oven falls thundering into bits.)

ff

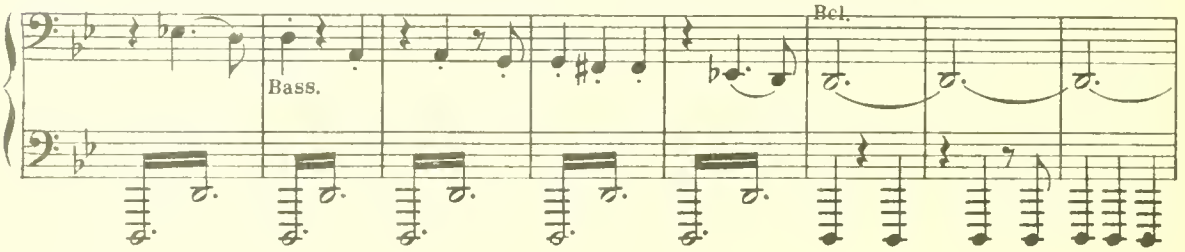


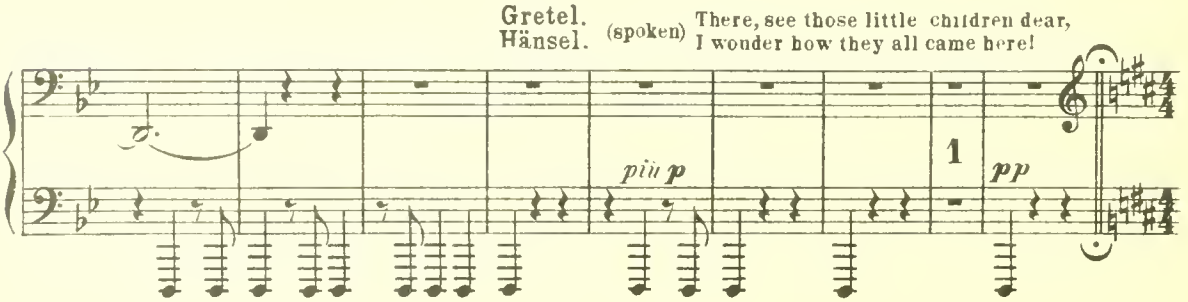


fall down, hurry towards the oven startled, and stand there motionless. Their astonishment increases when

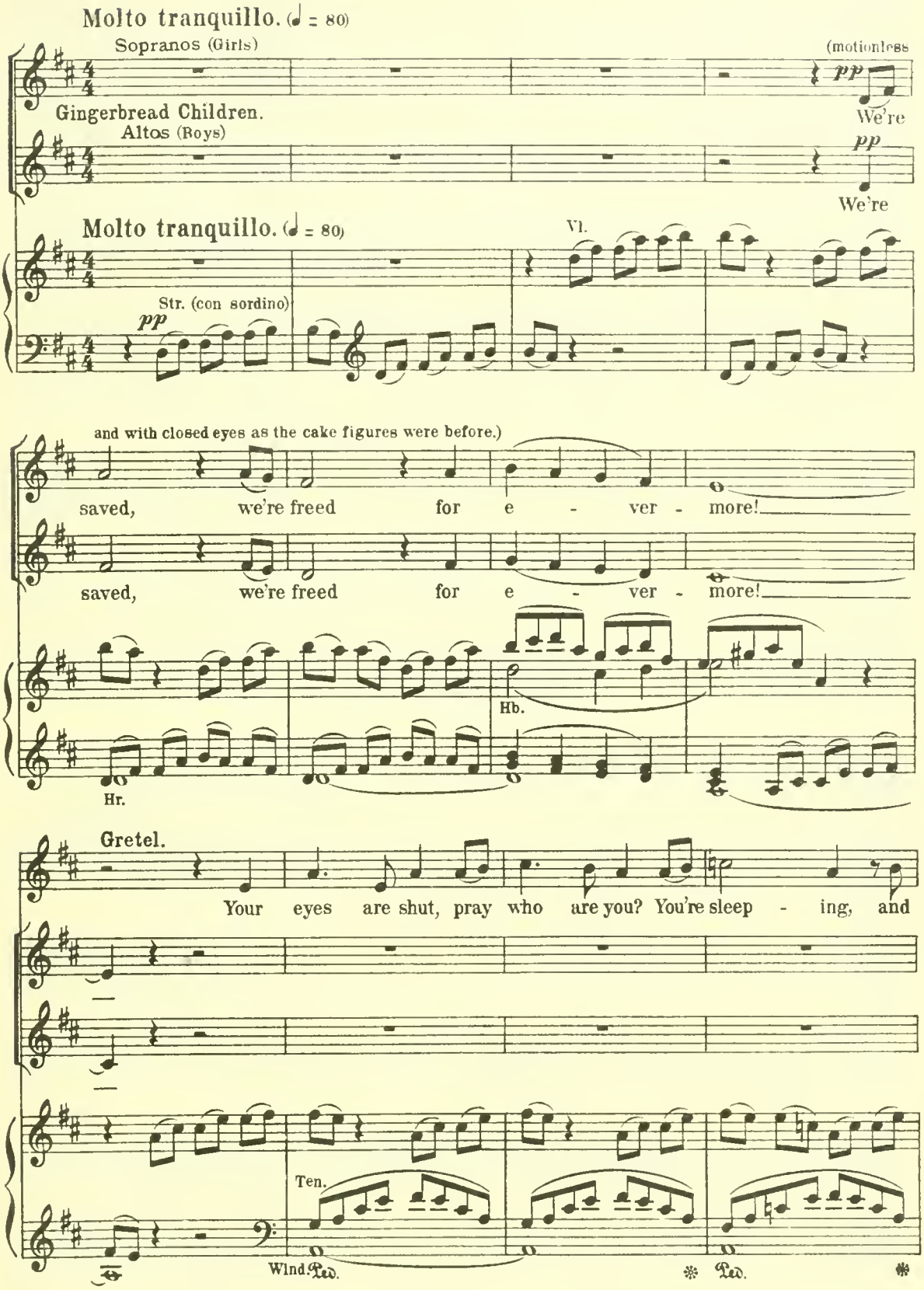


they become aware of a troop of children around them, whose disguise of cakes has fallen from them.)





Scene IV.


Molto tranquillo. (♩ = 80)
Sopranos (Girls)
(motionless
pp
We're
Gingerbread Children.
Altos (Boys)
pp
We're
Molto tranquillo. (♩ = 80)
Vl.
Str. (con sordino)
pp
and with closed eyes as the cake figures were before.)
saved, we're freed for e - ver - more!
saved, we're freed for e - ver - more!
Hb.
Hr.
Gretel.
Your eyes are shut, pray who are you? You're sleep - ing, and
Ten.
Wind.
Ped.
Ped.

yet you're singing too!

sempre pp

O touch us, we

sempre pp

O touch us, we

pp

Ped. * Ped. * *

Hänsel (embarrassed.)

O touch them for

pray, that we may all a - wake!

pray, that we may all a - wake!

m.s. *m.s.*

Ped.

Gretel.

Yes, let me stroke this in - nocent face!

me, I dare not try!

* Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

(She caresses the nearest child, who opens its eyes and smiles.)

p

O touch me too, O touch me too, that

p

O touch me too, O touch me too, that

cresc.

Ped. ✻ Ped. ✻

I al - so may a - wake!

I al - so may a - wake!

pp

Ped.

(Gretel goes and caresses all the rest of the children, who open their eyes and smile, without moving. meanwhile Hänsel seizes the juniper - branch.)

Poco a poco accelerando sin' al -

cresc.

✻ Ped. ✻

Hänsel.

Ho - cus po - cus el - derbush! Ri - gid bo - dy loosen, hush!

mf

più cresc.

(The Children jump up and hurry towards Hänsel and Gretel from all sides.)

Single.

We thank, we

Single.

We thank, we thank — you

Tempo vivace. (♩ = 80)

Hb. Cl. Hr.

f

thank — you both!

All.

(The children close in a circle round H. and G.)

The spell is broke and we are free, We'll

both!

All.

The spell is broke and we are free, We'll

f *ff*

sing and we'll dance and we'll shout for glee! Come children all, and form a ring, join

sing and we'll dance and we'll shout for glee! Come children all, and form a ring, join

hands to - ge - ther while we sing! Then

hands to - ge - ther while we sing! Then sing and spring, then dance and sing, For

mf

sing and spring, then dance and sing, That through the wood our song of praise may

cakes and all good things we bring, That through the wood our song of praise may

cresc. *f*

p *cresc.*

sound, and e - cho re - peat it all a - round!

p *cresc.*

sound, and e - cho re - peat it all a - round; all a - round!

p *cresc.* *ff*

Hänsel.

The

(drawing back.)

We thank!

(drawing back.)

We thank!

Hb.

Hr.

dimin.

Bass.

Ten.

p

an - - - gels whis - pered in dreams to us in si - lent night

(Four Gingerbread Children at a time surround Hänsel and Gretel, and bow gracefully to them.)

Vl.

p *espressivo*

Vcl.

Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped. *

Gretel.

Ye an - - gels,

What this happy, happy day has brought to light. Ye an - - gels,

Single. *p*

Praise and thanks!

Single. *p*

We

Fl.

Vl.

sempre Ped.

who have watched o'er our steps and led them right, You we praise and

who have watched o'er our steps and led them right, We

Single.

p

We thank you both

thank you both for all our joy and won-drous de - light!

thank for all our joy and won - drous de - light,

praise and thank, we praise and thank for all our

for all our joy and won - drous de - light, for all our

We thank you both for all our won - drous de - light! We

— for all — our de - light!

joy — and — won - drous de - light!

joy — and — won - drous de - light!

All. We'll thank — you

thank you both — for our de - light!

All. We'll thank — you

ff *f*

(They all press round Hänsel and Gretel to shake hands with them.)

all our life!

All. We'll

all our life!

We'll thank you all our life!

ff *mf*

Gretel.

We thank you now, we

Hänsel.

We thank you now,

thank you all our life!

We thank you both, we

We'll thank you all our life!

We thank,

cre

thank you now, We thank for our de - light!

We thank you now, We thank for our de - light!

We thank

thank you both, We thank you all our life!

We thank you all our life!

We thank you all our life! We

- seen - - do

f

p

fp

Hr.

Ten.

Ped. ✻

We

We

p

We praise and thank you both for

praise and thank you both for all our joy, all our de - light, for

Vl.

Ped. ✻ Ped. ✻ Ped. ✻ Ped. ✻

poco *ritard.*

thank, we thank for our de - -

praise and thank you now for our de - -

all our joy and for all our de - -

all our joy and our de - light, for all our de -

poco *ritard.*

Un poco ritenuto.

light!

light!

light!

light!

Father (behind the scene.)

Tra la la la, tra la la la, Were our children on - ly here!

Un poco ritenuto.

Wind.

p

(The Father appears in the background with the Mother, and stops when he (half spoken)

Tra la la la, tra la la la la, Ha! Why they're really there!

Vivo.

dimin. *p* *mf*

Last Scene.

sees the children.) Hänsel (running towards them.)

Fa - ther! Mo - ther!

Allegro molto. (♩=120)

Hr. *p* *mf*

Gretel. (the same.) Mother. Father.

Fa - ther! Mo - ther! Chil - dren dear! O

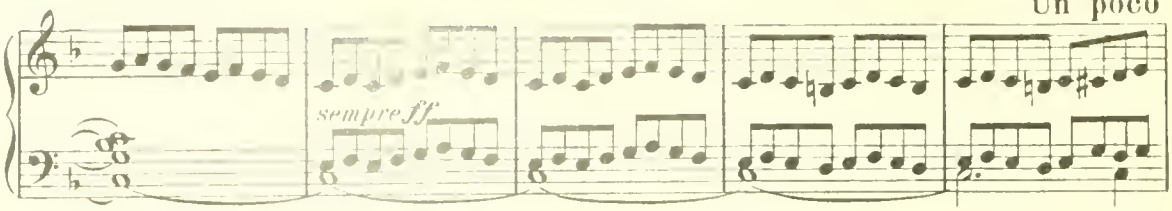
p *mf* *cre* -

(Joyful embracing.)

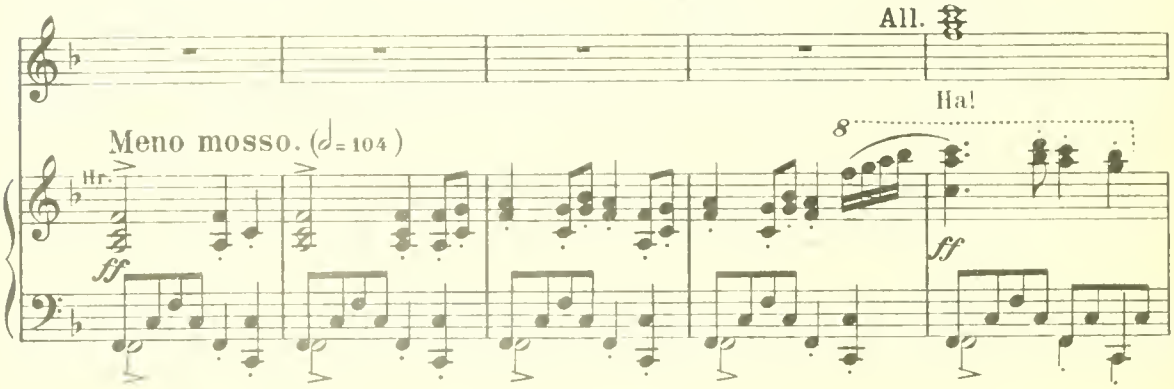
wel - come, poor chil - dren in - no - cent!

scen - - *do* *ff*

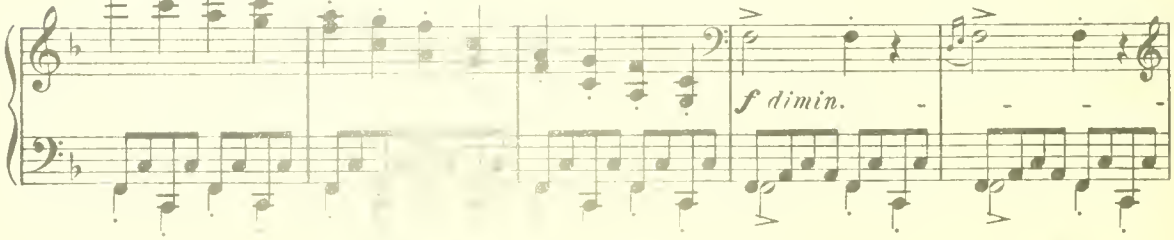
(Meanwhile two of the [illegible] the Witch, in the form of a big gingerbread cake, out of the



ruins of the oven. At the sight of her they all burst into a shout of joy. The boys place the Witch in the

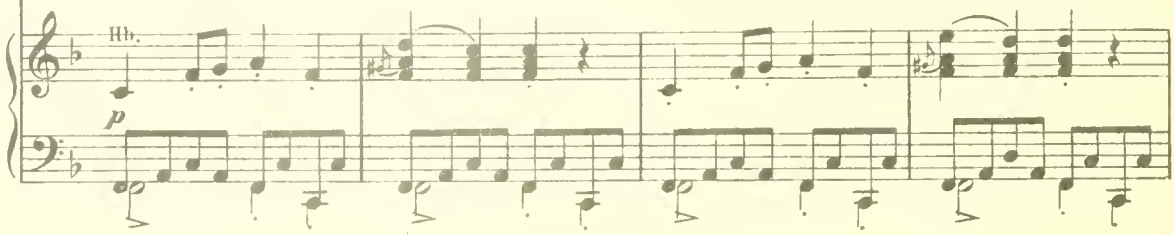


middle of the stage.)

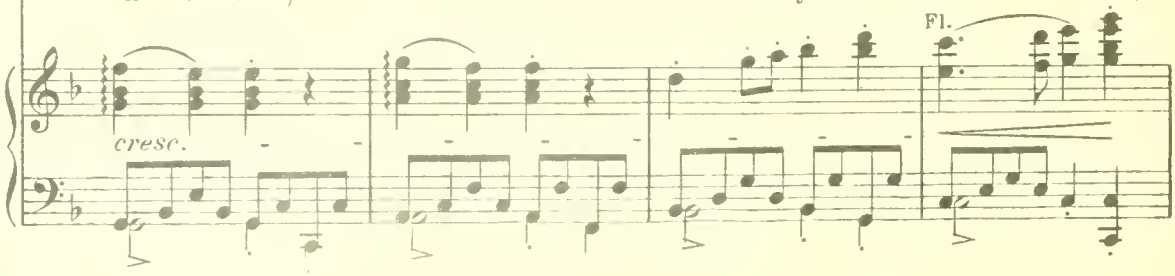


Father.

Chil - dren, see the won - der wrought, How the witch her - self was caught,



Un - a - ware, In the snare Laid for you with cun - ning



All the rest.

See, O see the won - der wrought, How the witch her - self was caught,

rare!

Vl.

fp

Un - a - ware In the snare Laid for us with cun - - ning

cresc.

(The two boys drag the Witch into the cottage.)

rare!

Such is Heaven's chastisement, E - vil works will have an end.

Cl.

fp

Bass.

Fl.

Poco a poco più allargando.

riten.

When past bearing is our grief, God the Lord will send us sure re - lief! Yes,

Wind.

p Str.

Vl. *riten.*

f

When past bearing is our grief, God the Lord will send re -

Wind.

Vcl.

Maestoso.

Più allargando.

molto cresc.

Gretel.

When past bear-ing is our grief, God the Lord will

Hansel.

When past bear-ing is our grief, God the Lord will

Mother.

When past bear-ing is our grief, God the Lord will

Father.

cresc.

lief! God the Lord will

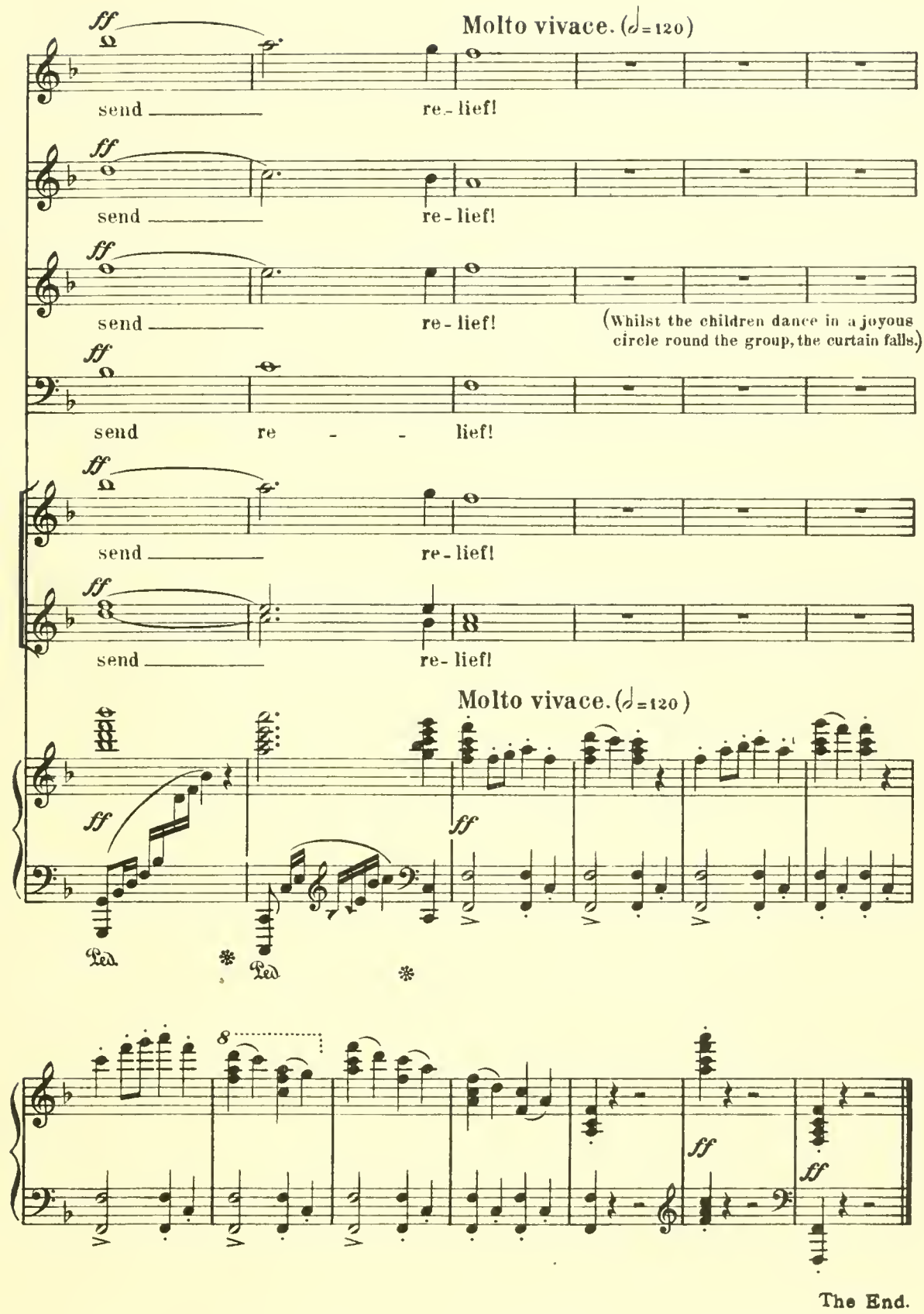
When past bear-ing is our grief, God the Lord will

When past bear-ing is our grief, God the Lord will

Maestoso.

Più allargando.

cresc.


Molto vivace. (𝅗𝅥=120)
ff
send re-lief!
send re-lief!
send re-lief!
(Whilst the children dance in a joyous circle round the group, the curtain falls.)
send re - - lief!
send re-lief!
send re-lief!
Molto vivace. (𝅗𝅥=120)
Ped.
Ped.
8
ff

The End.